

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE SURVEY,
BENINGBROUGH HALL AND PARK,
NORTH YORKSHIRE

VOLUME ONE
LANDSCAPE HISTORY REPORT



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The methodology for the survey was devised by Ed Dennison, with guidance from a National Trust project brief. The field recording was completed by Shaun Richardson and Ed Dennison who produced survey sheets and other archive information. The photographs were taken by Shaun Richardson and Ed Dennison, who also carried out the documentary, cartographic and desk-top survey work and completed all the data collation, synthesis, manipulation, and historical and statistical analysis.

The final reports, illustrations and drawings were produced by Ed Dennison. Mark Newman and the Beningbrough estate staff kindly provided comments on the draft reports. Despite this, any errors or inconsistencies remain the responsibility of Ed Dennison.

The project archive has been lodged with the National Trust (York Office), and copyright of all survey material and this report has been transferred to them although EDAS Ltd and the individuals concerned retain the right to be accredited as originators and authors, as appropriate.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In January 2004, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Limited (EDAS) were commissioned by the National Trust (Yorkshire and the North-East Region) to undertake a Historic Landscape Survey of their Beningbrough estate, centred on Beningbrough Hall in North Yorkshire (NGR SE51625856). The aim of the project was to provide an accurate and up-to-date identification survey of historic environment features to be found on the National Trust estate, and to produce recommendations for the future management and conservation of the identified sites. The work accords to a Level 3 Survey as defined by the National Trust's Historic Environment Survey Guidelines. The majority of the survey work was carried out in February 2004.

A total of 113 historic environment features (75 archaeological sites, 3 items of wall furniture and 35 extant or ruined buildings) were identified within the 152 hectare estate. Some 39 sites had previously been noted on the National Trust Sites and Monuments Record, mostly as a result of the Vernacular Buildings Survey carried out in the 1980s. No sites are scheduled as Ancient Monuments, but 15 structures are Listed as being buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest; Beningbrough Hall is listed Grade I while the others are all Grade II.

Little is known of the estate during the prehistoric period, but the recovery of two stone implements might imply some transient occupation at this time. Aerial photographs taken in 1985 have revealed the soilmarks of a probable Roman villa on Bravener Bank overlooking the River Ouse, and this site is of considerable significance, worthy of further investigation. In 1284 St Leonard's Hospital in York created a deer park in Beningbrough and, although it appears to be shown on a map of 1775, the western boundary has not been accurately located – it may coincide with a section of the Park Walk and a large earthwork bank in Pike Ponds Plantation may be a surviving section of the park pale. The Hospital also had other lands in the area, some of which are within the National Trust estate, and it has been suggested that their grange (outlying farmstead) lay to the immediate south-east of the Hall. However, more recent research suggests that it lies further away, to the north-east of Beningbrough village. Other medieval and early post medieval sites within the estate include several areas of ridge and furrow, possible building platforms, and a bank defining the boundary between Newton on Ouse and Beningbrough townships.

A large earthwork platform to the south-east of the Hall represents the site of an earlier manor house, probably built during the late 16th century by the Bouchier family. An inventory of 1695 shows that it grew to be a substantial structure of at least nine rooms on the ground floor. A series of earthworks just to the south of this platform may be the remains of gardens. It is noticeable that some of the rectangular ponds shown on later plans (e.g. the Carp Pond and the Tench Pond), as well as a linear canal depicted by Buck in the 1720s, are aligned on this complex. Further archaeological research is needed to confirm whether all these features are contemporary, but if so, the complex would be of national importance.

The present Beningbrough Hall was built in the early 18th century, and some of the gardens depicted by Buck to the south of the building still survive as low earthworks. Later maps and plans depict various tree-lined avenues radiating out from the Hall, but little evidence of these now remains. The northern part of the estate, in Newton on Ouse township, was brought into the park after enclosure in 1815, although Newton Lodge, located at the south end of Newton village was built before this, anticipating the extension of the park boundary. Most of the landscape features within the present park, such as the peripheral planting, circular walks, pleasure grounds and isolated tree clumps, were established by the Earle and Dawnay families in the 19th century.

Beyond the Hall and associated structures, the majority of the surviving building stock belongs to Home Farm. This complex underwent several phases of expansion, but there was one clear significant rebuilding (in terms of the height and style of the buildings) after 1852; the farm is now an intensive dairy operation. Several of the ponds within the estate incorporate brick-built ramps to enable stock to drink. Other significant elements of the built heritage include a Racquets Court, two skating ponds, a lodge on the east side of the estate (Beningbrough Lodge) and a water tower built to provide water to the Hall. One

short section of “estate-type” fencing still survives, together with two cast-iron gates, but the majority of the boundaries within the estate are now formed by modern post and wire or post and rail fences.

Most of the archaeological sites have a moderate (39%) survival, are considered to be stable (48%), and have a low vulnerability (45%). Some 16 sites (21%) have been destroyed or removed from the landscape over time. The vast majority of the built heritage is also in a good condition (80%), although several structures have had to be altered or modified to ensure their continued use. A considerable amount of repair and renovation work has taken place in recent years.

Some recommendations for the conservation and management of the archaeological resource are made in Volume 2 of the report.

1 INTRODUCTION TO THE SURVEY

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 In January 2004, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Limited (EDAS) were commissioned by the National Trust (Yorkshire and the North-East Region) to undertake a Historic Landscape Survey of their Beningbrough estate, centred on Beningbrough Hall in North Yorkshire. The aims of the project, which were defined by a brief prepared by the National Trust's Territory Archaeologist (Appendix 7), were to provide an accurate and up-to-date identification survey of Historic Landscape Features to be found on the National Trust estate, and to produce recommendations for the future management and conservation of the identified sites.

1.1.2 The work included the production of an archaeological gazetteer compiled from detailed non-intrusive field investigation, an examination of documentary sources, and the preparation of management recommendations for the conservation and enhancement of the historic resource. Additional information was also collected on the built heritage of the estate, although neither the Hall nor the features within and around the present gardens were required to be surveyed. The bulk of the site survey work was carried out in February 2004, with additional visits made in March, May and October 2004.

1.2 Aims and Objectives

1.2.1 The aims, objectives and survey methodology were laid out in a brief produced by the National Trust's Territory Archaeologist (see Appendix 7). The work accorded to a Level 3 Survey as defined by the National Trust's Historic Environment Survey Guidelines (National Trust 2000).

1.2.2 The objectives of the survey were defined as being:

- to gather sufficient information to establish the extent, nature, character, condition, quality and date of any surviving archaeological, architectural and historic features within the estate;
- to establish any functional relationships between the archaeological, architectural and historic features, and to indicate how the landscape has changed and developed over time;
- to provide a basis for the preparation of detailed management strategies and conservation proposals.

1.3 Survey Methodologies

1.3.1 The survey methodologies can be divided into five main sections, reflecting the various types of work undertaken.

Desk-top Survey

1.3.2 A desk-top survey was carried out to collate information relating to the known archaeological and architectural heritage of the estate. Four principal sources were used, namely existing archaeological databases, records of previous investigation or research, printed maps and manuscripts, and aerial photographic evidence.

- 1.3.3 The North Yorkshire County Council's Sites and Monuments Record (NYCC SMR), English Heritage's National Monuments Record (NMR), and the existing National Trust's Sites and Monuments Record (NTSMR) were consulted for information on the known archaeological resource of the estate. This data showed that there was relatively little previously recorded archaeological information for the park; the NTSMR contained some 39 entries, mostly relating to the built elements of the estate.
- 1.3.4 Information contained within the various Vernacular Buildings Survey (VBS) reports for the estate was collated for details of the built heritage (Menuge 1987a & b; 1988a to c). In addition to a detailed description of each structure within the Estate, these survey reports also contain some information on the history of landownership. The relevant List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest was also consulted for details of protected structures (DOE 1987).
- 1.3.5 There are several printed mid to late 18th and early 19th century maps which cover the park, although their scale is such that they provide only a broad idea as to its appearance at that time. The earliest, most reliable depiction is that provided by the Ordnance Survey 1852 1st edition 6" maps, and the subsequent 25" and 6" coverage. These were consulted and photocopied, and all relevant data transcribed onto modern bases as appropriate.
- 1.3.6 Finally, the aerial photographs held as part of the NMR were consulted, as well as those held by Anthony Crawshaw. The former were primarily black and white vertical aerial photographs dating from the 1940s, while the latter were colour low level vertical and oblique aerial photographs dating to between 1985 and 1994 (see Appendix 3).

Field Boundary Survey

- 1.3.7 All field and property boundaries within the estate were inspected and recorded, and any items of wall furniture were noted. The majority of the boundaries were found to be hedges, and these were included in any surveys of historic mapping and boundary alignments, but there was no necessity to record them in terms of species etc. However, individual items of interest, for example boundary furniture such as gateways, railings etc, were recorded as archaeological sites, in accordance with the methodology referenced above. Modern gateways or other openings were not recorded in detail (unless of specific interest), although their presence and distribution was noted as part of the general historic landscape survey.

Archaeological Field Survey

- 1.3.8 The whole of the National Trust estate, excluding the Hall and the areas of the gardens (see figure 2) was examined for any upstanding archaeological or architectural remains. This was achieved by undertaking a detailed walkover survey carried out in generally fine weather conditions in February 2004, with subsequent visits in March, May and October 2004. Each modern land parcel, as well as each farmyard and house complex, was walked through, around and across as practicable. The walkover survey was conducted in consultation with, and with the permission of, the estate staff and the tenants at Home Farm. Some of these individuals were also able to provide local knowledge on sites, tradition, land use and other relevant information.
- 1.3.9 A cut-off date of 1950 was implemented for site identification. All recent remains were therefore included in the survey, as were any sheepfolds, boundary stones, lime kilns, and ponds. All minor features such stone drinking troughs (whether *in situ* and

not), milk stands, saw pits and leats were recorded, together with any items of boundary furniture. Field boundaries shown on the historic maps which were no longer extant were also recorded as archaeological features; those which survived in a collapsed or denuded state were also recorded by the boundary survey (see 1.3.7 above).

- 1.3.10 Each identified site of archaeological, architectural and/or historic interest was referenced with a new NTSMR number (unless previously recorded), and recorded in accordance with the RCHME's Level 1 for Earthwork Survey (RCHME 1999).
- 1.3.11 Sites were located on Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 scale map bases, with an accuracy of +/- 5m, as dots, areas or sketch plans using standard graphical conventions. Recording was achieved through the use of a pro-forma field record sheet, supplemented by field notes and sketch location plans where appropriate. Buildings and smaller well-defined features were measured by tape or measuring lath, while larger features were paced; it should be noted that no detailed measured survey, using EDM or other similar equipment, was carried out. Descriptive records incorporating location, dimensions, plan, form, function, possible date, and sequence of development were made, together with details of current land use or vegetation cover, and whether the site was, or was likely to be, affected by ploughing, stock poaching or other potentially damaging agricultural operations or other erosive processes. This and other relevant information was later added to the NTSMR database.
- 1.3.12 In addition to the above, a number of identified archaeological sites or features were recorded by black and white 35mm photograph and colour digital photography; a catalogue of photographs appears as Appendix 3. Photographs were taken from the best vantage point, and with best light conditions available; in some cases this entailed waiting for clouds to clear or required a repeat visit. Poorly preserved, hidden or otherwise obscured archaeological sites were not photographed. A small number of general colour transparency views of the estate and selected features were also taken for interpretational use.

Architectural Survey

- 1.3.13 The existing information relating to the built heritage of the estate was collated from the records of the National Trust VBS and listed building information, and assessed. Previously recorded sites were re-visited and any anomalies, significant features not previously noted, or additional information relating to both the condition and management of the sites was recorded. Some new photography was also undertaken, particularly digital photographs which could be added to the NTSMR.
- 1.3.14 Any other pre-1950 buildings or structures identified as part of the archaeological survey and not otherwise previously recorded by the VBS were considered to be new archaeological sites, and were recorded as such using the methodology outlined above.

Written Accounts

- 1.3.15 The main product arising from the fieldwork was the production of new NTSMR records, or the enhancement of existing records. All existing keywords, classifications and data-standards, including those relating to the compilation of management and monitoring records, have been used, and sufficient site information was collected to allow all appropriate SMR fields to be completed. This includes cross referencing of documentary sources and photographic material.

2 THE BENINGBROUGH HALL ESTATE

2.1 Landscape

- 2.1.1 The National Trust's Beningbrough Hall estate is located within the modern civil parishes of Beningbrough and Newton-on-Ouse; the east-west aligned boundary between the two runs through the northern part of the park. This division also represents the boundary between the former historic townships, which were both located within the historic parish of Newton upon Ouse.
- 2.1.2 The estate covers some 152 hectares (376 acres) and lies *c.*10km to the north-west of York (see figure 1). It extends from the village of Newton upon Ouse in the north to the confluence of the rivers Ouse and Nidd in the south, and as far east as New Road. The only agricultural tenancy within the estate is Home Farm, which is managed as an intensive dairy unit.

2.2 Boundaries

- 2.2.1 The boundary of the National Trust estate partly coincides with that of the park as it existed by the mid 19th century, but also extends beyond it in several places.
- 2.2.2 Figure 2 shows the area of the estate in detail. From Newton upon Ouse, the boundary runs south along the east bank of the River Ouse for some 1.6km before reaching the former site of the Nun Monkton Ferry, opposite the confluence of the Ouse and the Nidd. The boundary then turns to the north-east, following the north bank of the Ouse for a further *c.*0.8km. It then diverges from the bank, running slightly uphill in a more north-easterly direction towards Beningbrough Lodge which is located at a prominent right-angled bend in New Road. From here, the boundary follows the west side of New Road, a product of the enclosure in 1815, as far as a sharp right angled turn to the west. The boundary is then formed by the south side of New Road, bringing it back to Newton Lodge at the north-west corner of the estate.

2.3 Geology, Soils and Hydrology

- 2.3.1 The underlying geology of the Beningbrough Hall estate comprises undifferentiated Permian and Triassic sandstones overlain with lacustrine clays, sands and silts, with alluvium along the River Ouse watercourse (Institute of Geological Sciences 1979; Ordnance Survey 1977).
- 2.3.2 The soils of the estate comprise of pelo-stagnogley soil of the Foggathorp 2 Association, a slowly permeably, seasonally waterlogged, stoneless clayey and fine loam soil, with a typical alluvium gley soil of the Enborne Association, a river alluvium, occurring in a narrow band along the river (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).
- 2.3.3 The hydrology of the estate is dominated by the River Ouse, which forms the western and southern boundary of the landholding. There are now no other surface streams or natural watercourses within the estate, although some of are shown on the historic maps; these have presumably been culverted and there will also be below-ground drainage systems associated with the numerous ponds and water supply to the Hall. Many of the ponds were either deliberately constructed as, or modified into, stock watering or washing places, and there are two other shallow ponds constructed as 20th century skating rinks. There is also some evidence for more historic water bodies within the estate, for example fishponds and garden water features, some of which survive while others do not.

2.4 Topography, Settlement and Land Use

- 2.4.1 The Beningbrough Hall estate is characteristically low lying. The land adjacent to the River Ouse in the southern part of the park lies at an average height of c.31m AOD, rising to a maximum elevation of c.56m adjacent to Newton Lodge at the north-west corner of the park.
- 2.4.2 The Hall and its associated courts and gardens form the main area of settlement within the park, with only a single farm complex, Home Farm, lying to the north-east. The main access to the Hall is either from the north, via the village of Newton upon Ouse and Newton Lodge, or from the east, via Beningbrough Lodge and then past Home Farm. It should be noted that the existing settlement pattern and communications network represents only the latest phase in a sequence of landscape changes, and evidence for earlier occupation and road alignments was recorded by the survey (see Chapter 5 below). The actual village of Beningbrough lies some 1.5km to the south-east of the Hall, outside the National Trust landholding.
- 2.4.3 Land use within the park is predominantly agricultural. Farming is now almost wholly pastoral, with dairying and sheep being the most important. Some small areas of arable were evident at the time of the survey to the south-east of Home Farm, and much of the pasture has been improved in recent years. There are numerous isolated tree clumps and peripheral planting belts around the park, remnants of the 18th and 19th century landscaping. No quarrying or other mineral extraction is taking place within the park at the present time.

2.5 A Summary of Land Ownership History

- 2.5.1 The early history of land ownership within the area now occupied by the estate is obscure. A small number of prehistoric artefacts may point to transient occupation at this time, and it is also possible that the estate contains a Roman villa. There have been suggestions of Anglo-Saxon settlement in or around the area, but this does not appear to have any basis in modern study. The main evidence relating to land use and ownership dates from the medieval period onwards.
- 2.5.2 Beningbrough appears as “Benniburg” in the 1086 Domesday Survey, when it formed part of the extensive fee (estate) held by Hugh, son of Baldric (Faull & Stinson 1978, 23N28). The manor comprised three carucates (c.360 acres), including six acres of meadow and an area of woodland pasture measuring three furlongs long and one wide, which was farmed by five villagers with two ploughs. The land was held by Hugh’s tenant, Ralph. This estate may have had its genesis in a grant of land made to St Leonard’s Hospital in York by King Athelstan in the 10th century (Michaels 1986, quoting *The Yorkshire Herald* for 24th December 1927), and which was renewed by further grants in the 12th century. One of these grants may have comprised land within the existing park, as one of its boundaries was formed by “Deneburg”, the boundary between Beningbrough and Newton townships; in addition, the name “Nidderminae” may refer to the Ferry Ings area adjacent to the confluence of the Nidd and Ouse rivers (Smith 1928, 19).
- 2.5.3 In 1284 the Hospital received licence to enclose and empark 56 ½ acres of wood and 100 acres of their adjoining woodland to create a deer park (Morewood 1968a, 160). The location of the grange associated with the Hospital’s land at Beningbrough is unclear; various sources place it either close to the existing Hall or on the site of Beningbrough Grange Farm to the east of the existing park (see Section 4.3 below). As part of the Dissolution of the Monasteries, St Leonard’s Hospital was suppressed

in 1539 but the last master, Thomas Magnus, was allowed to lease the former monastic estate at Beningbrough for life.

- 2.5.4 After being leased to several other individuals for short periods, the former monastic grange passed to the Bouchier family in 1557. After selling his Staffordshire estates between 1568 and 1575, Ralph Bouchier took up residence at Beningbrough in c.1576, either re-building the grange or erecting a new house at around the same time. Documentary evidence suggests that the house was enlarged at least once and, by the late 17th century, it had become a large and fashionably furnished residence. However, construction of a new house (the existing Hall) was begun in c.1710-11, and was largely complete by 1716. The Beningbrough estates remained with the Bouchier family until 1761, when they married into the Earles. After the Earles, the holdings passed to the Dawnays and they remained with them until 1916, when the estate was sold. The Hall and park were subsequently purchased by Lady Chesterfield and remained with her until her death in 1957. They then passed to the National Trust in 1958 and have been under its care ever since.

2.6 Documentary Sources

- 2.6.1 There does not seem to be a single deposited archive relating to the Beningbrough Estate, and it is presumed that the bulk of the landowning family papers have either been lost or destroyed. There are a small number of documents in the local record offices, such as the Borthwick Institute of Historical Research (BIHR) in York, the North Yorkshire County Records Office (NYCRO) in Northallerton, the York City Archives (YCA) and York Central Library (YCL). Other documents are scattered around the country, for example rentals and arrears dating to between 1608-30 are held as part of the Petworth House archives (PHA/363). English Heritage, the YCL and the BIHR all hold details of the 1916 sale of the estate, and an account of corn and furniture at Beningbrough bought by Leonard Beckwith survives in the University of Hull archives. Some of the medieval documents associated with the manor, for example those relating to St Leonard's Hospital, survive in the Public Record Office, the British Library and the York City Archives; some of these have been translated by John Thallon and Mrs Thallon, and were kindly made available for the historic landscape survey.
- 2.6.2 Detailed historic maps are also few and far between. The estate is covered by the general county maps such as those produced by Jefferys (1775) and Greenwood (1817), and also by Rhodes' 1834 map of the River Ouse, but these are by definition fairly small-scale and often contain little of specific detail. More detailed maps include 1841 estate maps for both Beningbrough and Newton townships, currently held at the Hall, but the field schedules have not been located. The various editions of the Ordnance Survey maps, dating from 1852, provide the best source of historic mapping for the estate.

2.7 Previous Archaeological and Historical Research

- 2.7.1 Some limited archaeological survey work has previously been undertaken within the Beningbrough Hall estate, but this Historic Landscape Survey represents the first, systematic programme of data collection. Prior to this, the archaeological resource of the estate was summarised in the 1997 "Archaeological Atlas" (Newman 1997).
- 2.7.2 A number of small-scale excavations and watching briefs have been carried out as part of various repair and improvement works within the estate. The limited excavations include work undertaken to the south of the ha-ha (Cross 1984), to the gate opening mechanism to the north of the Hall (Mark Newman, *pers. comm.*), and

in advance of the insertion of water tanks to the north of the Hall (Cale 1991). Watching briefs have been carried out during the installation of a security system to the east of the Hall (Newman 1994), during the building of a slurry lagoon at Home Farm (Newman 2001), during pipe laying operations at Home Farm (Newman 1995), and before field access hardening to the south of the Hall (Newman 1988). A geophysical survey and excavation was undertaken in the walled garden in 1995 prior to the restoration of the area. It is also understood that there have been other amateur excavations within the estate, for example in the 1920s on the site of the earlier manor house (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*).

- 2.7.3 The estate has also been the subject of some other, non-intrusive historical research. The history of landownership of Newton-upon-Ouse, within which Beningbrough is situated, has been researched as part of the Victoria County History of Yorkshire series (Morewood 1968a). Of direct relevance to this current landscape survey however, is an unpublished historical account of the property (Michaels 1986); this document has been used to provide some of the background and context to the identified archaeological sites. Further historical analysis is currently being undertaken by Mr John Thallon, Head Gardener at the Hall, and he has kindly made much of his current research available (eg. Thallon und (a & b)). Other non-intrusive work includes an assessment of the various ponds in the park (Currie 1992). The present property guide book also contains some useful information, of relevance to the park and grounds, as well as the buildings (Simon 1992).
- 2.7.4 The built heritage of the Beningbrough Hall estate has been recorded in some detail, through the various Vernacular Building Surveys (VBS). To date, five have been completed, namely Newton Lodge on the north boundary of the park (Menuge 1988a), the Water Tower on the east bank of the River Ouse (Menuge 1987a), the Squash or Racquets Court within the Home Farm complex (Menuge 1988b), Beningbrough Lodge on the east side of the park (Menuge 1987b), and the eleven structures making up the Home Farm complex (Menuge 1988c). Beningbrough Hall, which is outside the area covered by the Historic Landscape Survey, has also been covered in national journals such as *Country Life* (Binney 1981; Jourdain 1927; Tipping 1927) and *English Homes* (Tipping & Hussey 1928), and appears in numerous other books on regional and national architecture (e.g. Lees-Milne 1986, 243-251; Hey 1981, 98-100).
- 2.7.5 A number of other publications are directly relevant to the understanding of the estate, such as a study of adjacent villages which primarily covers the period 1700 to 1850 (Price & Ruffhead 1973). The history of the Bouchier family has also been studied in some detail (e.g. Taylor 1988).

3 SUMMARY LIST OF RECORDED SITES

3.1 A gazetteer of all the sites recorded in the Beningbrough Hall estate is given in Appendix 1, but the following list provides a summary.

NTSMR	Site Name	NGR
30839	Stone axe (find), High Closes	SE515595 (A)
30840	Bronze candlestick (find), just north of Larch Walk	SE520590 (A)
30841	Unclassified stone artefact, from north of Larch Walk	SE520590 (A)
30842	Medieval manor house (site of), south-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51865844 (C)
30843	Possible Roman villa, Bravener Bank	SE51415920 (C)
30844	Remains of demolished 19th century outbuildings, east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51655855 (C)
30845	Walled garden and associated structures, Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51805854 (C)
30846	Vine House, Beningbrough Hall	SE5177058563 (E)
30847	Carp Pond, north of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE51885874 (C)
30848	The Tench Pond, Beningbrough Hall Park	SE52065880 (C)
30849	The Pike Ponds, Pike Ponds Plantation	SE52315895 (C)
30850	Garden earthworks, south of Beningbrough Hall	SE51605840 (C)
30851	Putative Stable Wing, north-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51665861 (C)
31139	Medieval deer park, Beningbrough	SE525595 (C)
31351	Beningbrough Hall (LB I)	SE51625856 (E)
31352	Walls and gate to north of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51635860 (C)
31353	Brew House, west side of yard to west of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE5155958580 (E)
31354	Laundry House, north side of yard to west of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE5156558592 (E)
31355	Wall around Laundry and Brewhouse yard, Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51705858 (C)
31356	Skating rink, 150m north-north-west of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51585874 (C)
31357	Pump House/Water Tower, west of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE5131558605 (E)
31358	Ha-Ha, to west and south of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51625846- SE51955850- SE51555860 (L)
31359	Wall running west from walled garden, east of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE5172958562- SE5167358566 (L)
31360	Stable Block, Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE518005859 (C)
31361	Barn, Beningbrough Home Farm (LB II)	SE5190058600 (E)
31362	Stable and cart shed, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5193058654 (E)
31363	Newton Lodge, north side of Beningbrough Park (LB II)	SE5121959600 (E)
31684	Beningbrough Lodge, east side of Beningbrough Park	SE5241558618 (E)
31694	Racquets Court, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5192058590 (E)
31695	Bungalow, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5193058686 (E)
31696	Former cart shed and cake house (now Bungalow), Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5190058695 (E)
31697	Cart shed converted to garage, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5192558705 (E)
31698	Modern cottage and outbuilding, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5196858662 (E)
31699	The Garden House, Beningbrough Hall	SE5185058570 (E)
31700	The Horse Surgery, Beningbrough Hall Park	SE5212558800 (E)
31701	Modern steel framed cow-house, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5198558620 (E)
31702	Modern steel framed stock shed, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5198558620 (E)
31703	Modern steel framed shed, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5199058580 (E)
31704	Modern steel framed shed, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5196558580 (E)
34062	Ridge and furrow earthworks, north end of Beningbrough Park, east of the Coach Road	SE514595 (C)
34063	Ridge and furrow earthworks, north side of Beningbrough Park, west of the Coach Road	SE51275940 (C)
34064	Boundary bank (township boundary), north part of Beningbrough Park	SE51215929- SE51875947 (L)
34065	Drain / culvert, The Falls	SE51255931 (C)
34066	Pond, north part of High Closes	SE51805945 (C)
34067	Flood defences, north-west corner of Beningbrough Park	SE51095951- SE51355915 (L)
34068	Ridge and furrow earthworks, Bravener Bank	SE51355932 (C)

34069	Boundary bank, Bravener Bank area, east of the Coach Road	SE51495915- SE51535901 (L)
34070	Boundary bank, west of Larch Walk	SE51875899- SE51675901 (L)
34071	Pond, north of west end of Larch Walk	SE51875907 (C)
34072	Ridge and furrow earthworks, north-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51455865 (C)
34073	Probable building platforms, north-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51535877 (C); SE51535876 (C)
34074	Headland and trackway, north-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51495891- SE51565868 (L)
34075	Avenue, north of Beningbrough Hall	SE51645865- SE51705896 (L)
34076	Cattle trough, west of Crow Trees	SE5137058580 (E)
34077	Ice house, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE51905866 (C)
34078	Modern steel framed shed, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5198058635 (E)
34079	Architectural fragments, east of Garden House, Beningbrough Hall	SE51885857 (C)
34080	Section of estate fencing, south of American Garden, Beningbrough Hall	SE51905838- SE51965848 (L)
34081	Pond, west of Nut Flat, south of Beningbrough Hall	SE51885831 (C)
34082	Column capital, north bank of river, south-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51945812 (C)
34083	Ridge and furrow earthworks, east side of Ferry Ings	SE51805825 (C)
34084	Drain / culvert, south-east part of Ferry Ings	SE51745812 (C)
34085	Ridge and furrow earthworks, south-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51525848 (C)
34086	Former field boundary / boundary bank, south of Beningbrough Hall	SE51475836- SE51715831 (L)
34087	Skating pond, south-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51455836 (C)
34088	Possible avenue, south-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51475839 (C)
34089	Possible ridge and furrow earthworks, Ferry Ings	SE51405796 (C)
34090	Nun Monkton Ferry (site of), Ferry Ings	SE51305790 (A)
34091	Earthworks, south of presumed Manor House, south-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51845834 (C)
34092	Pond (site of), south-east of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE52165842 (C)
34093	Boundary banks and footpath, The Avenue	SE52265860- SE52215893 (L)
34094	Gate, south end of The Avenue	SE5226658640 (E)
34095	Gate, south side of road leading from Beningbrough Lodge	SE5227058630 (E)
34096	Pond, south of Pike Ponds Plantation	SE52315891 (C)
34097	Avenue (site of), south of Beningbrough Hall	SE51575838 (C)
34098	Avenue (site of), south-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51785837 (C)
34099	Avenue (site of), west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51455860 (C)
34100	Larch Walk, north of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE52205892- SE51885889 (L)
34101	Road, leading from Beningbrough Lodge to Hall	SE52425862- SE51695883 (L)
34102	Coach Road, from Newton Lodge to Beningbrough Hall	SE51225960- SE51675884 (L)
34103	The Park Walk, north of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE51945872- SE51885906 (L)
34104	Track / footpath, south-east of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE52005854- SE52085818- SE52415859 (L)
34105	Field boundary (site of), south-east of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE51915859- SE52315843 (L)
34106	Field boundaries (sites of), High Closes	SE519593 (C)
34107	South Bower (site of), south of the Walled Garden	SE51815847 (C)
34108	Flood defences, south-west part of Beningbrough Park	SE51405893- SE52075816 (L)
34109	Ridge and furrow earthworks, north of Beningbrough Hall	SE51525899 (C); SE51575861 (C); SE51885866 (C)
34110	Boat House (site of), north-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51405893 (C)
34111	Beningbrough Park (P&G II)	SE515585 (C)
34112	Building (site of), south side of Pike Ponds Plantation	SE5228558905 (E)
34113	Cow house, Beningbrough Home Farm (LB II)	SE5190058600 (E)
34114	Granary / Covered foldyard, Beningbrough Home Farm (LB II)	SE5190058600 (E)

34115	Cart shed with granary over, Beningbrough Home Farm (LB II)	SE5190058600 (E)
34116	Covered foldyard, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5190058600 (E)
34117	Cow House, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5190058600 (E)
34118	Septic tanks, south-west of Newton Lodge	SE51185950 (C)
34119	Boundary bank, Pike Ponds Plantation	SE52235893 (C)
34120	Possible chapel or rabbit warren (field name), east of Beningbrough Hall	SE522582 (C)
34121	Field boundary (site of), east of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE51995856- SE52255858 (L)
34122	Possible ridge and furrow earthworks (site of), east of The Avenue	SE52355880 (C)
34123	Ridge and furrow earthworks (site of), Nut Flat, south-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE52205830 (C)
34124	Possible building platform, north-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51705863 (C)
34125	Possible building platform, south-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51525849 (C)
34126	Possible trackway across township boundary, north part of Beningbrough Park	SE51485942 (C)
34127	Raised area of ground and earthwork, High Closes	SE51955935 (C)
34128	Avenue and track (site of), north-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51565871- SE52395240 (L)
34129	Former course of road to Beningbrough Hall from the east (site of)	SE51805857- SE52415861 (L)
34130	Boat house (site of), west side of the Carp Pond	SE51865864 (C)
34131	Garden earthworks, between Beningbrough Hall and the ha-ha	SE51625848 (C)
34132	Building (site of), The Belt	SE5230558420 (E)
34133	Bnak (former track), north-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51315862- SE51575864 (L)
34134	Ridge and furrow earthworks, Pike Ponds Plantation	SE52255896 (C)
34135	Linear earthwork (possible track), south-west of Beningbrough Lodge	SE53205860 (C)

4 THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE BENINGBROUGH HALL ESTATE

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The following text provides a background to the historical development of the Benningbrough Hall estate and a summary of its archaeological resources, as recorded by the Historic Landscape Survey, in a broad chronological time frame. It should be noted that only a broad synopsis is given, and that not all the sites identified and recorded by the survey are discussed in detail; some of the minor and more ephemeral sites are omitted for the sake of clarity.
- 4.1.2 A summary list of the 113 sites identified and recorded by the survey is given in the Inventory of Sites (Chapter 3 above); these sites are referred to in the following text with the prefix “NTSMR”. Full details, together with bibliographic references, can be found on the NTSMR database, while Appendix 5 gives details of their condition etc. The locations of the sites are shown on 1:2,500 map bases (figures 11b-f), and figure 11a provides a key to these bases.

4.2 Prehistoric to Early Medieval Periods (up to AD 1000)

- 4.2.1 As yet, little is known of the estate during the prehistoric period, but archaeological investigations and the recovery of artefacts have shown that the surrounding area is likely to have been inhabited for some considerable time (e.g. Radley 1974, Jones 1988). The NTSMR notes that a late Mesolithic or Neolithic flint axe (NTSMR 30839) was found in the area of High Closes, in the northern part of the park, but no further information on this find is currently available; it is believed to be held by the Yorkshire Museum but this has not been confirmed, and the exact location of the discovery is unclear. Another “stone implement” is also reputed to have been found to the north of Larch Walk in the later 19th century but again this location has not been confirmed (NTSMR 30841; Anon 1885, 25).
- 4.2.2 It has been suggested by antiquaries as early as 1736 that a Roman military road, mentioned in the History of Antonius, passed through the Benningbrough Hall estate (Drake 1736, 12 & 25). This belief was still current in 1857, when a directory was able to state that, as well as the road, “it is also believed that the Romans had a fortress here” (Whellan & Co 1857, 624). However, a later directory of 1890 notes that “this is only conjecture, and has never received any confirmation by the discovery of Roman remains” (Bulmer 1890, 769).
- 4.2.3 Aerial photographs taken by Anthony Crawshaw in May 1985 show what has been interpreted as being the possible remains of a Roman villa (NTSMR 30843) in the north-west part of the park, to the west of the Coach Road, overlooking the River Ouse (see plates 1 and 2). The photographs show soilmarks of what appears to be a U-shaped building or complex, “open” to the south side, with an east arm apparently extending further to the south than a west one. Internal divisions and wall thicknesses are just visible within the building and there may be further features to the south, although these may mark the positions of former trees. A curvilinear soilmark can also be seen extending from the complex to the south and then south-east, as far as the Coach Road; this may represent an access route. The building is apparently on the same alignment as some adjacent ridge and furrow (NTSMR 34068) but, based on the evidence of the photographs, it is unlikely to be contemporary with it as one appears to overlie the other. However, and most crucially, the exact relationship between the soilmarks of the building and the ridge and furrow is unclear, and it is no better defined today on the surface of what is now a pasture field. A walkover survey did reveal a large sub-rectangular flattened area, measuring c.20m north-south by c.35m

east-west, which is respected by the ridge and furrow, but it is difficult to see whether the earthworks are contemporary, or if the platform has been formed by smoothing out the ridge and furrow. Nevertheless, the platform does appear to correspond to the position of the building as photographed in 1985, and this site is clearly of some significance. Further investigation would be needed to confirm whether this platform does mark the site of a Roman villa, or if it is the site of another early post-medieval feature (see Section 4.4 below); it is also possible that the site is associated with the “assart of the hermit” which is mentioned in 12th century grants to St Leonards Hospital (Mary Thallon, *pers. comm.*).

- 4.2.4 The present National Trust estate, and also the historic Beningbrough Park as it developed after c.1700, occupies much of the land between the three settlements of Nun Monkton to the south-west, Newton upon Ouse to the north-west and Beningbrough itself to the south-east. The name of Beningbrough is thought to stem from the Anglo-Saxon for a fortified place (*burgh*) and a personal name (*Benna*) (Smith 1928, 19; Ekwall 1966, 37). Alternatively, it may derive from *bene* meaning “prayer”, and it may be significant that King Athelstan (d.939) is reputed to have given land in Beningbrough to St Leonard’s Hospital in York in the 10th century (Michaels 1986, quoting *The Yorkshire Herald* for 24th December 1927). Another source suggests that the Kings of Northumbria may have had a residence at Beningbrough (Whellan & Co 1857, 621), although the evidence for this statement is not given. A later source states that nearby Overton, “originally a Roman clan-station ... in the Norse days, was a hall or hunting seat of Earl Morkere” (Fletcher 1902, 219), and it may be that the two stem from the same belief.

4.3 Medieval Period (1000-1540 AD)

Ownership, Settlement and Tenorial History

- 4.3.1 There are some suggestions of Anglo-Saxon settlement in or around the estate but none of these appear to have any basis in modern study, although Asfrothr held three carucates of land in Beningbrough prior to 1086 (Faull & Stinson 1978, 23N28). Beningbrough appears as “Benniburg” in the 1086 Domesday Survey, when the manor was held by Hugh, son of Baldric, and it comprised three carucates farmed by five villains (Faull & Stinson 1978, 23N28; Price & Ruffhead 1973, 12). The neighbouring manor of Newton was held by Ralph Paganel, sometime Sheriff of York. He restored Holy Trinity church in Micklegate, York and “the church at Newton and whatever belongs to it and the tithes of the Hall” were used to generate income for the York church. Newton was larger than Beningbrough, with c.180 acres of woodland and 16 villeins in 1086; it was valued at 26s 8d, compared to the 40s of the earlier Anglo-Saxon period (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 12).
- 4.3.2 At present, the history of the early and later medieval landownership within the Beningbrough Hall estate is not well understood. However, a number of important medieval documents have been transcribed by Thallon, and these shed some light on the late medieval landholdings in the area; at present, the boundaries of these holdings can be only loosely defined.
- 4.3.3 The documents show that large parts of the manors of Newton on Ouse, Overton and Beningbrough were held by various monastic institutions based in York during the medieval period, such as St Leonard’s Hospital (a dependency of St Peter’s Church) or St Mary’s Abbey, either as landholdings attached to granges (outlying farmsteads providing resources for the main house) and/or as deer parks. The Benedictine convent of Nun Monkton also held land in Beningbrough during the medieval period (Morewood 1968a, 163). The evidence for each park / grange is set out below.

- 4.3.4 It should be noted that this section of the report draws heavily on unpublished research undertaken by John Thallon, who kindly provided transcripts of his work (e.g. Thallon und (a & b)). This research demonstrates that some of the statements made in earlier works regarding the various deer parks in Beningbrough are either incorrect or have become confused with one another.

St Leonard's Hospital, York

- 4.3.5 The majority of the land held by St Leonard's Hospital was obtained through a series of grants made by three generations of the de Beningbrough family in the 12th century, and it was noted above that this estate may have had its origins in the 10th century. The original documents relating to the 12th century grants have been lost but a later inspection contained in the Charter Rolls and St Leonard's Chartulary provide duplicate information (Thallon und (a)). One inspection, the "Confirmation of the Liberties of Hospital of St Leonard (St Peter) at York" dating to the late 14th century, has been translated by Thallon (see Appendix 1/1). This document includes the reference to "half an acre of land beside Lidyate with that Land which begins at the cross of the Hospital and continues along the boundary of Newton as far as the end of the ditch and thence as far as the hedge with three oaks and continues beside the hedge as far as the other land of the Hospital". Thallon notes that the "cross" on the Newton boundary was probably associated with the Court House (the present Court House Farm east of Newton on Ouse at NGR SE528602), formerly the Cote House, which also belonged to the Hospital, and which was described as "Cote House upon the Forest side" (Thallon und (a)). However, the Victoria County History also mentions an *ex situ* stone cross by the side of the road in Overton, which might be the cross referred to (Morewood 1968b, 167). The "end of the ditch" could correlate with the Wadeland Dike or possibly the ditch which formed the Newton boundary across the present park, although it could also be a smaller drainage ditch.
- 4.3.6 A second grant by William de Beningburg included an area described as extending "from Deneburg, which is the boundary between Newton and Beninburgh, that part of the wood which runs to the East part of the assart of the hermit and thence to Lidgate by the oaks on which the donor's father made crosses with his own hand" (Thallon und (a)). This grant places the wood on the Newton boundary and, together with the land in the previous grant must represent some considerable part of the later deer park.
- 4.3.7 In addition to the holdings noted above, St Leonard's Hospital also held "all the land of Nidderminae", which Thallon and others identify as being an indeterminate area enclosed by the bend of the River Ouse, opposite the confluence with the Nidd, and perhaps also land further to the east, including the named fields of Nut Flatt and Coney Garth (Thallon und (a); Smith 1928, 19).
- 4.3.8 On the 15th May 1284, a jury comprising Geoffrey de Neville, Justice of the King's Forest beyond the Trent, two foresters, four verderers and ten local men, met at Beningbrough to hold an Inquisition into the Hospital's plan to create a deer park out of their lands. The Inquisition was necessary as Beningbrough township lay within the Royal Forest of Galtres, and so a royal licence was required before any enclosure could be made. The jury concluded that the royal forest would not be injured "if the wood of Beningburg be enclosed and made into a park so that his wild animals have there neither ingress nor egress". The "covert" of the forest where the deer lived was "distant a bowshot" from the wood, and the King's highway lay between the two; the King's deer were only seen when corn was sown in the area immediately adjoining Beningbrough wood (Thallon und (b); Kaner 1997, 127).

- 4.3.9 Following the Inquisition, on the 1st June 1284, the Master and Brethren of St Leonard's Hospital received licence to inclose and empark 56½ acres of wood and 100 acres of their adjoining demesne lands (Cal Pat Rolls 1281-92, p158, quoted in Thallon und (b)). The licence included permission to create woodbanks with an external ditch and pales. In October of the same year, the Master of the Hospital, Geoffey de Aspale, received from the King "four live bucks and eight live does to stock a park of his" from the Forest of Galtres. Shortly afterwards, in August 1288, the King ordered the Sheriff of York to give the Master of the Hospital 24 bream from the "water of the Fosse", perhaps destined to stock fishponds at Beningbrough (Thallon und (b)).
- 4.3.10 In 1287, a manorial survey was undertaken of St Leonard's Manor of Beningbrough, entitled a "Valuation made before H de Cressingham and Brother Walter de Brumpton of the Manor of Beningburg". As with the other documents noted above, this contains useful details, and is reproduced in Appendix 1/2 from the transcription made by Thallon. The manor contained 560 acres in total, of which 252½ acres were within the Hospital's demesne. The newly created park was described as a "certain park which contains in itself 136 acres of land and wood, and it is worth in underwood, pannage and pasture 40s". Of the remaining land mentioned by the survey, some 366 acres were arable, while 52½ acres of the demesne was let out to a Will Patewyn. The survey also notes that the Hospital were able to take wood from the adjacent Galtres Forest for building and repairing their houses and hedges ("husbot" and "haybot"), limited to 52 wagons a year and only one wagon a week, and they were able to graze their cattle, pigs and sheep in the forest.
- 4.3.11 Various attempts have been made by previous studies to equate the "capital messuage" mentioned in the 1287 survey with the Hospital grange; in c.1540 the complex was described as including "the mansion hows, one oxen hows, one stable, one garnar, one dove hows & three bernes" (see Appendix 1/2 & 1/4). It has been suggested that this was the same grange where the last master of the Hospital, Thomas Magnus, was allowed to dwell after the surrender of the institution in 1539 (Tipping & Hussey 1928, 222). Possible locations for the medieval building or complex have been given as the site of the old manor house immediately to the south-east of Beningbrough Hall (see NTSMR 30842 below) or the existing Beningbrough Grange, located to the north of Beningbrough Lane to the north-east of the village (NGR SE534589); the latter location is favoured by the Victoria County History. The Hospital also had a separate grange in Newton (Morewood 1968a, 160-161). The fortunes of the Hospital apparently suffered a reversal in the late 14th century, when the financial mismanagement of the master, William de Botheby, led to the sale of some of their assets at Beningbrough, to the extent that the park was all but destroyed (Michaels 1986; Fallow 1913, 314). Perhaps this explains a significant reduction in the recorded acreage attached to the grange between 1287 (560 acres) and c.1540 (320 acres).
- 4.3.12 Throughout the late medieval period, the accounts of St Leonard's Hospital make reference to the "parcum de Beningbrough" but without giving any idea as to its extent or boundaries. However, it is now generally assumed that the area roughly equates with the "Beningbrough Old Deer Park" as marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map to the east of the present National Trust estate; although the western boundary is as yet unconfirmed, it may well have extended into the current survey area (Thallon und (a); see below). The latest known surviving accounts of the Hospital, dated 1461-62 (Minster Library M.2 (6)d and transcribed by Thallon) also provide further information regarding the use of the woodland at this date, and a payment is made to a Thomas Bishop the elder for floating rafts of timber from Beningbrough to York at certain times this year (see Appendix 1/3).

St Mary's Abbey, York

- 4.3.13 In addition to the deer park created in 1284 by St Leonard's Hospital, Drake notes that St Mary's Abbey also had a well-stocked park at Beningbrough granted to them by King John (i.e. before 1215) (Michaels 1986; Fletcher 1902, 219). However, this is not mentioned by the Victoria County History (Morewood 1968a), and it is possible that there has been some confusion between the two religious houses.
- 4.3.14 The exact location of St Mary's park is also unclear. Some studies (i.e. Michaels 1986; Fletcher 1902, 219) appear to suggest that it might lie within the area of the present National Trust estate, but these are contradicted by the fact that the Abbey's main house was located in the neighbouring manor of Overton, which the Abbey owned throughout the medieval period. The remains of the Abbey's hall were apparently still standing close to the church in the early to mid 16th century (Tipping & Hussey 1928, 229), and in 1661 a Dr Hutton recorded a beam within it bearing a carved Latin inscription stating that the house was built "Anno Dom MCCCCVI et regni regis Henric Septimi"; there were also several other "broken inscriptions and coats of armouries then in the windows". The building was finally demolished in 1736 and its stones were incorporated into a farmhouse although the moated enclosure still remains (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 87; Morewood 1968b, 167). Other 19th century directories note that St Mary's park was located between Overton Woods and Beningbrough village (eg. Bulmer 1890; Whellan & Co 1857, 624). Whether or not the Abbey had a park, they may have had a small estate in Beningbrough, which comprised at least nine bovates (c.140 acres) and was valued at £4 8s 6d at the Dissolution (Dugdale 1846, 557 & 570), although again this is not mentioned by the Victoria County History (Morewood 1968 a & b).

Other evidence

- 4.3.15 There is also some limited field-name evidence for land usage within the National Trust estate during the medieval period. A field in the south-east part of the estate, known as "Nut Flat" and depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, may derive its name from *flatts*, representing areas of former arable open fields, although it can also simply mean a flat area of ground (Michaels 1986; Field 1972, 79). An area known as "The Falls" in the north-west corner of the park (in Newton township) may denote an area of land newly claimed from the waste by the river bank (Michaels 1986), but it is more likely to refer to the divisions in the former Garth Ends Field (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 52-53). An area called "Coney Garth" to the east of the present Hall is traditionally associated with an enclosure in which rabbits were either bred or caught while "Ings", as in "Ferry Ings", stems from the Old English meaning pasture ground (Field 1972, 51-52 & 113).
- 4.3.16 As noted above, Beningbrough lay on the western edge of the Forest of Galtres, an area described as "many places were thick and shady with lofty trees and underwood but others were wet flat boggy moorish quairemires – a dreary waste extending north from York for twenty miles to Aldebrough" (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 9). In 1316, the boundaries of the Forest of Galtres were given clear definition, and both Newton and Beningbrough came under the Forest laws (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 12); the perambulation states "following the Wall (of York) ... to the water of the Ouse, thence to Beningbrough and Newton Bridge, and so by Linton Brook and the midst of Linton Marsh going on to the west of the village of Tollerton" (Morewood 1968a, 160; Price & Ruffhead 1973, 71).
- 4.3.17 In 1409, payments were made for expenses incurred by travelling between Newton and Beningbrough, and also for the purchase of oxen for Beningbrough (Minster

Library M.2 (6)b, transcribed by Thallon). In 1461-62, 23s and 8s were spent on repairs undertaken by a carpenter at “Benynburgh Mill” (Minster Library M.2 (6)d, transcribed by Thallon- see Appendix 1/3). It would appear that the Nun Monkton Ferry may also have been owned by St Leonard’s Hospital, as one source states that it was first granted by Henry VIII to Lord Latimer in 1538 (Michaels 1986), perhaps suggesting that it was removed from the Hospital’s ownership around the time of the Dissolution. The ferry remained in regular use well into the 19th century and in fact did not cease entirely until c.1945 (Michaels 1986) (see NTSMR 34090 below).

The Dissolution

- 4.3.18 St Leonard’s Hospital was suppressed in 1539 as part of the Dissolution of the Monasteries, and in the 1540s a number of surveys were made of the Hospital’s Beningbrough grange, which contain much useful information. These surveys are reproduced in Appendix 1/4 and 1/5, from transcriptions made by Thallon. The first survey describes the grange complex as containing “the mansion hows, one oxe hows, one stable, one garnar, one dove hows & three berrnes, one lytill orchard containing one acre & other lytill parcel of grownde lying about the said howse containing one acre”. The various parcels of land belonging to the grange, covering c.320 acres, are also named, and they include “the chapel garth otherwise the coney garth”, “Nuttflatt cont[aining] 20 acres”, “one hows called Cote hows upon the forest side with ½ acre”, “one close of pasture called Ridding full of thornes & bushes 6 acres” and “one wood called Beningborough Lunde containing by estimation 140 acres sett with small okes & underwood which is divided into 15 haggges & the wood of every hagg when ther be spryng and felled is worth to be sold 9 the hagg” (PRO E315 401, transcribed by Thallon – see Appendix 1/4); the latter is a reference to the former deer park while “hagg” is the name given to one of the rotations of a coppiced wood which is often associated with charcoal production.
- 4.3.19 The second survey forms part of a detailed survey made of woodland under monastic ownership in Yorkshire in the early c.1540s. Within Beningbrough Grange, it names “Beyngbrough Loun Wood” (90 acres containing oke, ashe, hazel and wythe and four acres of waste), “Redyng Wood” (12 acres), “Sanderson Hagge” (4 acres), and “hedgerows in myddleclose” (Leeds City Archives GC FO1, transcribed by Thallon – see Appendix 1/5).

Archaeological Sites

- 4.3.20 Several medieval, and other presumed medieval, sites were identified by the historic landscape survey. These can be grouped into four main categories - deer parks, agricultural earthworks, boundaries and other sites.

Deer parks

- 4.3.21 The documentary evidence for the deer parks in the area of the Beningbrough Hall estate has been summarised above but, as already noted by Thallon (und a), the removal of the boundary landmarks and absence of field name data means that it is at present difficult to determine whether any of the parks extended into the estate. However, it seems likely that the area named on the Ordnance Survey 1852 6” map as “Beningbrough Old Deer Park”, and also shown on Jefferys’ 1775 map (see figure 4) represents the site of St Leonard’s Hospital deer park which was described as being 136 acres in extent 1287 and 140 acres in 1540 (NTSMR 31139). The 1852 map names the north and south boundaries of the park as “Park Rein”, while the majority of the southern edge is represented by “Wadeland Dike”; *Rein* is from the Old Norse meaning “land on a boundary” (Field 1972, 273). The boundaries as depicted in 1852

therefore place “Park House” within the park and “Beningbrough Grange” just off to the south-east.

- 4.3.22 The western limit of this park is more difficult to trace, and it has been suggested that it extended into the Beningbrough Hall estate, as far as the later Park Walk so that it included the area known as “High Closes” (Thallon und (a)). If this is the case, the north side would therefore continue west along the Newton / Beningbrough township boundary (possibly the medieval “Deneburg”; see NTSMR 34064 below), while the southern edge would be represented by a westwards alignment through Pike Ponds Plantation and along The Larch Walk. The west side of Pike Ponds Plantation does contain a substantial earthwork bank, aligned north-west/south-east measuring c.50m long, c.5m wide and c.1.4m high (NTSMR 34119) which has all the characteristics of a park pale, and it is possible that this alignment is continued even further to the west by another denuded bank (NTSMR 34070; see below). Members of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society have also recorded ancient woodland indicator species in Pike Ponds Plantation and along the Larch Walk (Mary Thallon, *pers. comm.*).
- 4.3.23 If the western edge of the park is taken to be the later Park Walk, the area thus enclosed would equate to c.210 acres, some 70 acres larger than the recorded area, even taking into account the vagaries of medieval measurements. It is therefore possible that “High Closes” were not included in St Leonard’s park. It would also seem more logical if the park was bounded on the west by the Wadeland Dike, or another boundary with a similar alignment to the present New Road (as implied by the 1852 map), thus placing the park outside the National Trust estate, and making the interpretation of a pale in Pike Pond Plantation redundant; perhaps it was a woodbank instead. Without further information on the field names and other boundary features, these theories cannot at present be resolved. However, it should also be remembered that medieval deer parks expanded and contracted in accordance with the fortunes of their owners, and the discrepancies in the acreages could be explained by omitting a part of the park from the documents, for example if it was pure woodland or if was the 81 acres that were recorded in 1287 as being in the demesne but not in the park. Thallon (und (a)) also mentions the possibility that the Bouchier family might well have reused the park in the 16th or 17th centuries, and that it was this later boundary which was mapped in 1852. Finally, it should also be remembered that the deer park was only part of St Leonard’s Hospital’s landholding in the parish.
- 4.3.24 It was also noted above that St Mary’s Abbey might have had a deer park in Beningbrough, granted to them before 1215. The location of this park is not known, but the currently available information suggests that it was located to the east of the village, between the village and Overton Wood, and so lies outside the area of the National Trust estate.

Agricultural and related earthworks

- 4.3.25 Several areas of ridge and furrow earthworks were identified by the survey. In most cases the ridges were low and denuded, surviving to less than 0.3m in height and could only be seen clearly in low light conditions.
- 4.3.26 The majority of the ridge and furrow lies in the northern part of the park, to the north and north-west of the Hall. One area (NTSMR 34062) lies to the north of the former Newton / Beningbrough township boundary and is bounded on its west side by the Coach Road. The ridges here are aligned north-west/south-east and are on average c.4m wide and c.0.3m high, and they appear to be divided into three blocks of unequal size by shallow linear depressions on the same alignment as the ridge and furrow. The earthworks probably once continued further to the east, where very faint traces

can be seen, but they have been removed by later agricultural activity. The ridge and furrow lies entirely within the former township of Newton, an area which remained as open fields until 1815 when it was enclosed and brought into the park (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 60-62).

- 4.3.27 To the west of the Coach Road, and still within the former Newton township, a small block of north-east/south-west orientated ridge and furrow (NTSMR 34063) runs down a natural slope towards a flat area adjacent to the River Ouse known as “The Falls”; although these earthworks do look like ridge and furrow, it is possible that they result from land drainage works carried out in the 1890s (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). At the base of the natural slope there are also two narrow platforms, one above the other and both terraced slightly into the slope (NTSMR 34118); each platform is c.25m long by c.5m wide, and it was thought that they may represent the sites of former agricultural structures, although it has subsequently been established that they are the sites of two disused septic tanks (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). Further to the south, again on the west side of the Coach Road, there is a much larger area of ridge and furrow (NTSMR 34068) on the same north-east/south-west alignment. This area contains a flattened sub-rectangular platform, c.35m long by c.20m wide, which is either respected by the ridge and furrow or perhaps has been formed by filling in the furrows; this may represent the site of the reputed Roman villa mentioned above (NTSMR 30843).
- 4.3.28 Further to the south, there are large areas of ridge and furrow to the immediate north and north-west of the Hall, all apparently forming part of a once extensive medieval open-field system. There is at least one major headland / boundary within the system (NTSMR 34074), formed by a spread slightly curvilinear bank, c.10m wide but only c.0.3m in height, separating two areas of ridge and furrow which have different orientations. From at least 1841, and probably much earlier, this headland formed part of the southern end of the Coach Road leading to the Hall from Newton Lodge; it remained in use as a trackway until 1893 but had become disused by 1907 when the main approach was altered (see below).
- 4.3.29 To the west of this headland, the ridge and furrow (NTSMR 34072) has a general north-east/south-west alignment. The ridges have an average width of c.3m and a height of c.0.3m. The area is crossed by a c.10m wide spread bank (NTSMR 34133) running towards a water tower located adjacent on the east bank of the Ouse; the bank appears as a trackway on maps from 1841 onwards. On the east side of the ridge and furrow, adjacent to the headland, there are two shallow sub-rectangular depressions (NTSMR 34073), each c.20m long, which appear to be respected by the ridge and furrow and which might represent the sites of former contemporary buildings.
- 4.3.30 On the east side of the headland is the largest area of ridge and furrow earthworks within the park (NTSMR 34109), covering an area c.400m long (north-south) by c.240m wide (east-west). The ridges are aligned north-west/south-east, with an average ridge width of c.3m and height of c.0.3m, and they clearly pre-date the present avenue. The ridges become more closely spaced and poorly defined towards the east side of the area. The west side of the earthworks may be defined by a shallow linear depression on a similar alignment, and there are the remains of a possible platform c.10m long and c.4m wide at its south-east end (NTSMR 34124).
- 4.3.31 The agricultural earthworks to the south of the Hall are even more poorly defined than those to the north. To the west of Nut Flat, a very spread north-west/south-east aligned bank, which may be a further field boundary as it is possibly shown as a line of trees on the Ordnance Survey 1852 map, appears to have ridge and furrow on different orientations to either side (NTSMR 34083). There is further possible ridge

and furrow nearby in Ferry Ings (NTSMR 34089); the ridge and furrow here is visible on aerial photographs taken in June 1967. This part of the estate was flooded during a part of the walkover survey, and it is possible that any historic earthworks in this low-lying land may have been affected by the deposition of alluvium over the centuries.

- 4.3.32 Closer to the Hall, to its south-west, there is an area of north-west/south-east aligned ridge and furrow (NTSMR 34085). The west side of these earthworks appear to be defined by a linear depression, and there is an adjacent shallow rectangular depression c.20m long and c.10m wide which might represent the site of another structure (NTSMR 34125).
- 4.3.33 There are several other minor features within the survey area that may relate to medieval or early post-medieval agricultural earthworks. For example, to the east of the Coach Road, near Bravener Bank, there is a very spread bank (NTSMR 34069), with possible faint traces of ridge and furrow to the north-east, which may be the remains of a former field boundary. There is also a small area of surviving ridge and furrow in the woodland of Pike Pond Plantation (NTSMR 34134), while aerial photographs taken in 1946 and 1951 suggest ridge and furrow in the fields to the east of The Avenue (NTSMR 34122) and in Nut Flat (NTSMR 34123).

Boundaries

- 4.3.34 The longest boundary within the survey area is that defining the division between the townships of Newton and Beningbrough (NTSMR 34064). This runs for c.720m through the northern part of the park, generally on a north-east/south-west alignment. The date of the earthwork is not known, but it may well define a boundary established by the medieval period, perhaps originally between the manor of Newton and the estates of St Leonard's Hospital; as noted above, the part of the boundary between Newton and Beningbrough was known as "Deneburg" and was marked by a ditch in the 12th century (Thallon und (a)). The boundary appears as a dotted or dashed line on early to mid 19th century maps, and with a number of trees depicted along its line in 1841. In 1852 the boundary is defined as being the "Centre of Track or Drain" or "Centre of Track of Old Fence".
- 4.3.35 This earthwork boundary has been much denuded by recent and perhaps more historic agricultural activity, but it may originally have formed an augmentation of a natural feature, perhaps a broad north-facing scarp. At its west end, the boundary is represented by a shallow depression, c.6m wide and 0.20m deep, running across The Falls. This section may be however be relatively modern and is perhaps associated with an adjacent drainage feature (NTSMR 34065). The boundary only becomes recognisable as a substantial earthwork to the east of the Coach Road, where there is a very spread north-facing bank, c.8m wide but only c.1.5m in height. Some 100m to the east of the Coach Road the bank is interrupted by a curving shallow depression c.12m wide, with a bank of a similar width curving around its north side (NTSMR 34126). Together, these two features appear to form the remains of a broad ramp or trackway crossing the township boundary, linking the higher ground to the south with the lower ground to the north; perhaps this is a pre-cursor to the later Coach Road. The main boundary bank (NTSMR 34064) then continues to the east as a spread earthwork, over c.20m wide but only c.1.5m in height, with a number of mature oak trees along its length. The bank becomes more spread as it runs eastwards through improved pasture, eventually fading out in High Closes just short of the east boundary of the National Trust estate (New Road). A similarly spread feature appears to run south from the east end of the bank towards a slightly raised sub-circular area, c.100m across, in the centre of High Closes (NTSMR 34127); however, both these features may be natural in origin.

- 4.3.36 A number of other boundaries of possible medieval date are visible within the survey area. The well-preserved section of bank in Pike Ponds Plantation (NTSMR 34119) has already been noted above as being a possible deer park pale, but perhaps continuing this general alignment, some distance to the west, is a very denuded but wide bank (NTSMR 34070) to the north of the west end of Larch Walk. This bank becomes slightly better defined to the west of a trackway (NTSMR 34103), where it is visible as a spread feature c.10m wide and c.0.5m high. The central part of the bank, opposite the end of the avenue aligned on the north front of the Hall (see NTSMR 34075 below), appears to be stepped and twice the width of that to either side. The bank does not appear on any of the historic maps (seen by this survey) as a boundary, although a drain is shown crossing the park in 1767-70, apparently parallel to its north side; the drain appears in this position in 1817 and 1834, but not 1841, and it would appear to have been culverted or infilled by then. The different form of the central section of the bank suggests that it may have been altered in conjunction with landscaping activities associated with the construction of the avenue.
- 4.3.37 To the west of the Hall, the ground falls away down a steep natural slope towards a level area of varying width adjacent to the flood defences (NTSMR 34108). At the base of this natural slope, which has ridge and furrow running down it in several places (NTSMR 34072 mentioned above), a c.8m wide shallow waterlogged depression was noted, which persisted for several weeks after floodwaters had retreated (NTSMR 34086). This depression was visible to the south-west of the Hall as far as a former ice-skating rink (NTSMR 34087). Its line might be continued by a spread but prominent bank (NTSMR 34086) which continues to the south-east. The bank is c.250m long, c.8-10m wide and c.0.3m high and it survived as a boundary as late as 1852, enclosing to its north a field named “Well Garth”; the 1852 map also shows that the linear depression to the north-west was also part of this boundary. Towards its eastern end, the bank contains a gap c.20m in length, and there appears to be a shallow depression running along the north side. The boundary does not appear to continue to the east of the west side of Nut Flatt. Although its alignment parallel to the early 18th century garden earthworks to the north (see Section 4.4 below) may suggest that it is contemporary with them, the bank could have earlier origins, possibly as an early flood defence feature and/or associated with a boundary around the Bouchier manor house.

Other sites

- 4.3.38 A location 250m to the east-south-east of the Hall (NTSMR 30842) has been proposed as being the site of a medieval manor house or even the grange of St Leonard’s Hospital. However, as the majority of the evidence relating to this site is post-medieval rather than medieval, it is discussed in Section 4.4 below.
- 4.3.39 The field known as “Coney Garth” was also named as “Chapel Garth” in a c.1540 survey of St Leonard’s Hospital (see Appendix 1/4; NTSMR 34120). This might signify the presence of a chapel in this area, or it could simply refer to an area of land held or granted to a chapel, which may or may not be within the National Trust estate. The “Coney Garth” name is traditionally associated with an enclosure in which rabbits were either bred or caught (Field 1972, 51-52).
- 4.3.40 It is possible that the ponds in Pike Ponds Plantation (NTSMR 30849) are medieval in origin, and it would appear that they lay within the area formerly occupied by St Leonard’s Hospital deer park. As noted above, the Sheriff of York was ordered to give the Master of the Hospital 24 bream from the “water of the Fosse” in August 1288, perhaps to stock fishponds at Beningbrough (Thallon und (b)). However, the

ponds have been severely disturbed and re-modelled, and so are considered in the section below.

4.4 Post-medieval Period (1540 onwards)

Ownership and Tenurial History

- 4.4.1 Following the Dissolution of the Monasteries, St Leonard's Hospital estate at Beningbrough was leased for life to Thomas Magnus, the former master of the Hospital in 1540 (Fallow 1913, 343). In January 1544-45, John Banester obtained the reversion of Beningbrough grange, together with "the grange in the parish of Newton and certain lands and woods in Beningbrough, Newton and Galtresse forest, Yorks" (Taylor 1988, 127; Morewood 1968a, 162); this is presumably the same Mr Banaster to whom trees were sold in the early c.1540s (see Appendix 1/5). Sir Leonard Beckwith of Selby was described as being "of Beningbrugh" in 1555 and he obtained a further lease of Beningbrough grange in 1557, following Bannester's death (Taylor 1988, 127). Bannester died without issue, and his estates passed to his nephew Ralph Bouchier of Haughton, Staffordshire (Taylor 1988, 127). Bouchier also held the adjacent manors of Newton, Shipton and Overton (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 12).
- 4.4.2 It is possible that Ralph Bouchier initially resided at his estates in Staffordshire, but he sold the majority of these between 1568 and 1575, and was definitely resident at Beningbrough by 1576. Sir Ralph built (or perhaps remodelled) a substantial house at Beningbrough in the late 16th century; Thoresby (1715, 578) gives the date as c.1584, although a surviving piece of Elizabethan panelling bearing family initials in the present Hall suggests that it may have been done before Sir Ralph remarried in 1577. The site of this 16th century house is traditionally assumed to be to the east-south-east of the Hall (NTSMR 30842), in which location it is depicted on maps from the mid 19th century onwards. However, no firm documentary evidence has been produced to confirm this and archaeological evidence is, to date, limited to the recovery of a number of mid to late 16th century bricks (Michaels 1986; Simon 1992, 5-6; Cross 1984); this site is discussed in more detail below.
- 4.4.3 After Sir Ralph Bouchier's death in 1598, the Beningbrough estate eventually passed to his grandson, Sir John Bouchier, in 1606. In the 1630s, Sir John came into conflict with the Crown as he continued to take timber from the Forest of Galtres under the terms of the original grant of 1284. Aggravating the situation, the Keeper of the Forest, Sir Thomas Wentworth (later Earl of Strafford and also President of the Council of the North), proposed to create a 1,000 acre deer park for Charles I, which included some land held by Sir John Bouchier. When the new park was fenced, Sir John pulled down the section on his land in May 1633, apparently when King Charles was hunting in the park, and was subsequently summoned to appear before the Star Chamber, where he received a £1500 fine (later reduced to £1000) and six months imprisonment. This event bolstered Sir John's already strong Puritan beliefs and he became a strong supporter of the Parliamentary cause throughout the Civil War and Commonwealth periods, to the point of being one of the signatories of Charles I's death warrant (Michaels 1986; Price & Ruffhead 1973, 13-14; Simon 1992, 7-8).
- 4.4.4 Following the Restoration, Sir John faced trial and execution as a Regicide, but he died awaiting trial in 1660. He was succeeded by his son, the first Barrington Bouchier, who had also been imprisoned in 1660. Barrington Bouchier was able to build on the family's estates in the Beningbrough area, purchasing the adjacent manors of Overton and Shipton during the 1660s (Morewood 1968b, 168). He may also have enlarged or rebuilt his father's manor house at Beningbrough, as the Hearth

Tax Returns record an increase of six to eleven hearths between 1662 and 1665 (Simon 1992, 8-9; Michaels 1986).

- 4.4.5 Following the death of the first Barrington Bouchier, the estate passed to his son, also called Barrington, who died in 1695. An inventory of the second Barrington's personal estate made upon his death included an inventory of the house at Beningbrough. His personal estate amounted to £1,400 and included a large amount of ready money held around the house. The house is recorded as containing at least 18 rooms, of which nine may have been downstairs, with seven chambers and two closets upstairs. The principal rooms were furnished fashionably and to a high quality, and were used according to the prevailing late 17th century fashion. A full transcription of the inventory, together with a discussion, has been provided by Taylor (1988, 142-146) (see Appendix 2) and only the main rooms mentioned are listed below. These are formed by "Sr Barrington's Chamber", "ye Green Roame", "Mr Bouchier's Roome", "ye Drawing Roome", "ye Dineing Roome", "ye Nursery", "ye Best Lodging", "ye Closet", "ye Dary", "ye Hall", "ye Chamber over ye stables", "my Lady's Closet", "Scudamore's Room", "Mr Tophams's Chamber", "John Robinson's Chamber", "ye Maids Chamber", "ye 3 Bed Chamber", "Mr Beaver's Roome", "ye Kitching" and "ye Store House". Further agricultural buildings which are mentioned include "ye great Garnish Chamber", "ye Barn", several mangers and a "calfe crib".
- 4.4.6 A second inventory was taken at "Beningbrough Grainge" later in the same year in the name of John Wilson deceased, and the disparity between the two houses has led to some confusion. Taylor proposes three possible solutions. Firstly, that Beningbrough was let very soon after Barrington's death to Wilson, who then died shortly afterwards himself. Secondly, that Wilson may have been a farmer living at a house close to the main house, or thirdly, that he may have lived at a house on the site of the existing Beningbrough Grange Farm (Taylor 1988, 138). It would seem that the latter explanation is the most likely, and this fits with the previous discussions about St Leonard's Hospital grange site above.
- 4.4.7 The third Barrington Bouchier's tenure was short, and he died in 1699. In 1698 he had planned to put some "delicate cutts and ridings" in some unspecified woods which Taylor identifies as being at Beningbrough (Taylor 1988, 138) although Thallon considers they are more likely to be Overton Wood (Mary Thallon, *pers. comm.*); if the former, this implies that the woods at Beningbrough had a much denser planting than is evident today. He was succeeded by his half-brother John, a minor, and so his aunt Elizabeth Clavering acted as his tutor and guardian. Four years later, in 1704, John embarked upon a Grand Tour of Italy, a trip which it has been suggested provided his inspiration for the rebuilding of the house at Beningbrough (Simon 1992, 9-10).
- 4.4.8 There has previously been some discussion as to whether Beningbrough Hall (NTSMR 31351) may have been the work of either Sir John Vanbrugh or Nicholas Hawksmoor (Tipping & Hussey 1928, 221). However, more recently it has been re-assigned to William Thornton (e.g. Hey 1981, 98; DOE 1987, 1). Thornton (c.1670-1721) was described as a "Joyner and architect" by Drake in 1736, and he is known to have worked as a carpenter at several Yorkshire country houses. Perhaps his most famous piece of carpentry was the elaborate scaffold constructed between 1716-20 under the direction of Nicholas Hawksmoor to restore the leaning north face of the north transept of Beverley Minster (Hall 2000, 99). However, Thornton also acted as an architect in his own right, for example, designing a summer house at Swinton Park in 1700, although Beningbrough remains his most substantial known work (Colvin 1995, 978-979). Michaels (1986) and Simon (1992, 12) both suggest that Thomas Archer (c.1668-1743) may also have been responsible for some of the Baroque

decorative details of the new house. Archer was a member of the aristocracy and an “amateur architect”, in that architecture did not form his main source of income, but he nevertheless undertook several substantial commissions, including the north front of Chatsworth House in Derbyshire and the addition of wings to Cliveden House in Buckinghamshire (Colvin 1995, 76-78).

- 4.4.9 It is not known when building on the new house began, but comparison with other contemporary houses might suggest an overall construction period of five to six years, inferring that work perhaps started in 1710 or 1711; the Newton-on-Ouse parish records mention a burial of a “mason” during the probable construction period which may be of relevance (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). The earliest documented mention of the house is in May 1714 when the glazing of the windows was almost complete, whilst in August of the same year Thornton noted that he had “wainscotted most of ye rooms at ... Mr Bouchiers” (Simon 1992, 12-14). Fitting out was substantially complete by 1716, although some works may have continued as late as 1720 (Simon 1992, 12-14).
- 4.4.10 The Beningbrough estate was still making money for its owners, for in the early 18th century timber from the park was used in the construction of the York Assembly Rooms. The latter’s account books include a number of payments made to John Bouchier, including one in December 1731 for moving “12½ Tun of Timber from Beninbrough to York” and payment in full for the timber amounting to £107 in February 1732 (York City Archive M23:4, transcribed by Thallon).
- 4.4.11 When John Bouchier died in 1735, he was succeeded by his son, also called John, who in 1738 leased the manor of Beningbrough to John Dawnay and John Eaton Dodsworth. When the younger John died in 1759, the Beningbrough estate passed to his uncle Dr Ralph Bouchier, who passed his interest to his only daughter Margaret on his death in 1768. Margaret had married Giles Earle in 1761, and so the estate passed from the Bouchier family to the Earles (Morewood 1968a, 163).
- 4.4.12 The Earles were probably resident at Beningbrough from c.1764 to c.1769, but they then embarked on an extended trip to the Continent that lasted for several years (Simon 1992, 18-20). The Earles then appear to have suffered some kind of financial crisis, as Beningbrough was mortgaged for £12,000 in 1777. The Earles may even have had to move out of Beningbrough for a short time; in 1779 the manor was leased to a Peter Johnson (Michaels 1986), whilst a notice in the *York Courant* in 1778 about game in the park notes that it was the responsibility of William Marriner of “Beningbrough Hall” (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 17). However, in 1778, Giles Earle offered “a large quantity of oak timber (for ship building) with some ash, elm and sycamore trees, growing on or near the banks of the Ouse in Beningbrough, Newton, Overton and Shipton” for sale (Michaels 1986), which almost certainly included many trees within the park. It is also noted that special “landing places” were constructed in the river for the transhipment of the timber (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 18).
- 4.4.13 This transaction may possibly, in part, have helped to ease the Earle’s financial situation, for in c.1780-90 they were able to build a new stable block (NTSMR 31360) at the Hall and a new lodge at the Newton entrance to the park (Simon 1992, 19-20). This lodge (see NTSMR 31363 below) has been attributed to the architect Samuel Wyatt, on account of its almost identical appearance to the entrance to Thirkelby Hall, near Thirsk (Michaels 1986; Menuge 1988a); it is not known which of the two lodges is the earlier, and therefore which is likely to be a copy of the other (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 78). It is interesting to note that Newton Lodge pre-dates the enclosure of the land immediately to the south by c.40 years (see below).

- 4.4.14 It was previously thought that the Earles did not take an active interest in the estate, but the programme of construction work noted above suggests otherwise. How much work they actually did in the park however is still open to question, although a letter written by Giles Earle to his solicitor, Joseph Munby of York, dated 2nd April 1802 contains a reference to some landscaping works:
- “I hereby give you carte-blanche to make any additions or improvements to those directions I have already mentioned, as Mrs Earle and I will esteem any money well laid out, of which the result shall be neatness or convenience in the roads or grounds contiguous to or leading to Beningbrough Hall, nay pray go a step further, by counter ordering any orders I have given John Bendall, if you think you can either improve or extend them” (YCA 54/120; also quoted in Michaels 1986 and Price & Ruffhead 1973, 19).
- 4.4.15 A subsequent letter dated 14th June 1806 refers to elaborate arrangements being made to have a “beautiful china orange tree” transported to the gardens via the river on a hired boat (YCA 54/133 – see Appendix 1/7).
- 4.4.16 Another letter dated 13th July 1804 shows that Giles Earle was also concerned that the popular road crossing the estate, leading from Newton Lodge to the Nun Monkton Ferry, should not be used by the public, although his attempts to block access appear to have failed. Earle states that “Having established the claim of the publick in this instance, the confederacy, at the head of which Mr Stockdale is the invisible agent, are prepared to sing “te deum” in the assured certainty of rendering the passage through my grounds for *carriages* of all *denominations* as open as the turnpike road to London” (YCA 54/125, also quoted in Michaels 1986 and Price & Ruffhead 1973, 20- see Appendix 1/7).
- 4.4.17 Michaels states that the southern part of the Hall’s grounds were altered in the later 18th century in line with contemporary tastes for “natural landscapes”, including the construction of a ha-ha (NTSMR 31358) (Michaels 1986), but the evidence for this assertion is unclear. Simon (1992, 88) considers that the planting of the northern parkland may have been undertaken in conjunction with the building of Newton Lodge in c.1790, which seems reasonable, although the area does not appear to have been incorporated into the park until its enclosure in 1815 (see below).
- 4.4.18 Giles Earle had been agitating for the enclosure of the common fields in Newton for some ten years before it actually took place (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 19). There were originally four open fields around the village, Watermill Field (c.250 acres), Windmill Field (c.250 acres), Garth Ends Field (c.192 acres) and Scawsyke (c.50 acres). Garth Ends Field lay on the north side of the then park, the southern edge of the field being the Newton / Beningbrough township boundary. Land in this field was referred to in wills as “Roods”, “Rood-Lands”, “Spurcrofts” (the latter usually taken to mean grass), and Thorndales or Thorndale lands, the latter running from east to west; one “spurcroft” land in Garth End Field was said to contain about “one acre and a half” (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 51-53). The petition for enclosure had been presented in 1812, involving 981 acres in Newton and Shipton parishes, of which two thirds were in Newton. The survey was undertaken by William Shipton and William Bingley, and the award was finally executed in June 1815. Under the terms of the Act, Margaret Earle (as Lord of the Manor) received c.350 acres, including all of Garth Ends Field, which itself included 18 very small areas removed from the garths or yards of the householders in the village (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 60-62; NYCRO MIC 1540/294 & 1482). As a result, Beningbrough Park was officially extended up to its present northern boundary.

- 4.4.19 The road from Newton to Beningbrough originally ran as a bridleway, roughly along the later Coach Road through the park. As a result of enclosure, the road was diverted to run east from the south end of Garth Ends Lane (now Back Lane) and then cut south-east across the High Closes area to join Hall Lane at Beningbrough Lodge (see figure 7b); this new route was to be 18ft wide and was called “New Road”, although it is marked as “Beningbrough Bridle Road” on the enclosure plan (NYCRO MIC 1540/295-5). A second bridleway was created around the south-west side of the park from Beningbrough Lodge to a guide post standing near the south-west corner of Nut Flat, to provide an access to the Nun Monkton Ferry (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 62-63 & 72-73). The Ouse also continued to serve as a major transport highway throughout the 19th century; various improvements were carried out in area in mid 19th century, although it is not clear if they affected the section of the river adjoining the estate (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 67).
- 4.4.20 Giles Earle died in 1811 and was survived by his wife Margaret, who continued to live as Lord of the Manor at Beningbrough until 1827. Upon her death, the estates were settled upon the Reverend William Henry Dawnay, a distant relation through marriage (Simon 1992, 20-21).
- 4.4.21 The Dawnay family undertook substantial changes to the Beningbrough Hall estate, primarily in the 1830-40s and the 1890s. During the former period, the Reverend William Dawnay employed the landscape gardener William Sawrey Gilpin to provide either advice or designs for alterations to the landscape at Beningbrough. It would appear that Gilpin’s major proposals (see Appendix 1/6) were not carried out, for example replacing the ha-ha with a dwarf wall, although recent tree ring analysis of fallen trees suggests that much tree planting took place around the 1830s (Michaels 1986). The peripheral hardwood shelter belt from Newton Lodge along Park Walk was planted slightly earlier between c.1800-1830, but Newton Lodge Wood itself dates to c.1800, when the oak trees along Larch Walk and along the boundary of the paddock were also planted. The belts around Nut Flatt and Coney Garth were probably added between 1830-1850, and the trees flanking the Coach Road were planted in c.1830. The Corsican pine near Crow Trees was planted in 1937 (Michaels 1986).
- 4.4.22 The Dawnays also undertook considerable improvements to the Hall itself, spending in the region of £18,000 between 1892 and 1912. A new service wing and conservatory were built, electricity installed and the forecourt remodelled. In addition, every farm on the estate was modernised, costing £13,500 in total and 11,000 new trees were planted across the estate in 1890 alone (Simon 1992, 21-23 & 91). The source of this information is given as Lewis Payn Dawney’s notebooks which date from 1892 but they were not available for inspection at the time of the current landscape survey, and it is unclear whether they remain at the Hall.
- 4.4.23 The estate remained with the Dawnay family until 1916, when it was put up for sale by Major General Guy Payan Dawnay and his wife Cecile. The estate was offered in 119 different lots, comprising almost 6,100 acres in total, including the Hall and park which comprised 376 acres at this time (YCL Y942.846 BEN) (see figure 10). The whole estate was purchased for £137,000 by William Towler, a Cambridgeshire farmer and speculator. The Hall, Home Farm and the park were put up for sale again in 1917 and bought by Lady Chesterfield for £15,000 (Michaels 1986), who set up a successful stud farm in the park during the 1920s; she also restored the formal gardens to either side of the south terrace (Michaels 1986; Simon 1992, 24-26). During the Second World War, the Hall was used to billet members of the Royal Canadian Air Force serving at the nearby bomber base at Linton-on-Ouse. Lady

Chesterfield lived at Home Farm during the war but moved back into the Hall in 1947 (Simon 1992, 26-27).

- 4.4.24 Following Lady Chesterfield's death in 1957, the Hall and park were accepted by the Government in lieu of death duties. The estate passed to the National Trust in June 1958, although not before the contents had been sold off in 1957. The Hall was opened to the public between 1961 and 1967 but visitor numbers declined steadily, reaching a low point of less than 2,000 annually by the mid 1970s. A major restoration and repair programme was undertaken between 1977 and 1979, with further works continuing into the early 1980s. The walled garden was restored in 1996 (Simon 1992, 28-32).

Previous Depictions and Descriptions

- 4.4.25 The earliest depictions of the Beningbrough estate appear on the small-scale county maps of the early to mid 17th century. Both Saxton (1607) and Speed (1610) show many deer parks surrounded by pales, but Beningbrough, along with the rest of the Forest of Galtres, is shown with no pale and only a few trees. Blaeu (1645) also depicts no pale, but he does show a large concentration of trees in the approximate area subsequently marked as "Beningbrough Old Deer Park" in 1852 (see below) (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). Beningbrough Hall is also depicted in block form, and labelled as "Mr Bouchier", on a 1767 map of the River Ouse (NYCRO MIC 1926).
- 4.4.26 The earliest known detailed depiction of the Hall and its immediate surroundings is a sketch made by Samuel Buck in c.1720 (Wakefield Historical Publications 1979, 234-235; see figure 3). This sketch depicts the eastern half of the south front of the Hall, viewed from the south, with a flanking pavilion to the east. Formal gardens are shown running south from the Hall, apparently adjoining a central lawned or gravelled walkway. It is not clear if they were mirrored on the other side of the walk, though this seems likely. The formal gardens comprise an upper and lower compartment, each containing *parterres de broderie* framed by *plate bande* of cone-like topiary and separated by a pathway leading to a gateway in the wall on their east side. The gateway is flanked by tall gatepiers surmounted by urns or some other form or ornament. Beneath the lower parterre, a large east-west aligned feature is shown, named as "A Fine Channel". To the south of this, there appears to be railings or a fence, depicted as vertical lines. Simon speculates that the gardens may have been a relic of some earlier scheme, perhaps pre-dating the *patte d'oie* arrangement of avenues shown on later 18th century maps (see below) (Simon 1992, 87). It was previously thought that Buck's depicted gardens were not completed, but the Historic Landscape Survey was able to identify some of the elements (see NTSMR 30850 below).
- 4.4.27 Warburton's 1720 map of Yorkshire contains no useful detail (Michaels 1986). The next detailed depiction of the house comes in 1751, in an oil painting made by J Bouttats and J Chapman, although there is some suggestion that it was in fact solely the work of the latter (Michaels 1986). The painting shows the house viewed from the north, with a large forecourt enclosed by a brick wall with flat stone coping (see plate 4). The forecourt is flanked to the east and west by two storey pedimented brick buildings, interpreted as service blocks. It has been suggested that these service blocks were never built, and that the painting is in fact a proposed scheme. However, as Simon (1992, 17-18) notes, the mullioned and transomed windows of the service blocks would have been considered old fashioned by the mid 18th century, so perhaps they were built at the same time as the main house but demolished at some point in the later 18th century? A very similar painting to that of 1751 mentioned above is

ascribed to Thomas Chapman and is presently in the Leeds City Art Gallery (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*).

4.4.28 A description of Beningbrough is also given by a French visitor in 1768, as follows:

“Walked in the gardens which are very pretty with water and the river below. Fine bowling green, beautiful menagerie with pheasants, fine lawn and bosquets of foreign trees, heated glasshouses for pineapples. Magnificent outbuildings, beautiful stables, beautiful allee of oaks in a field in front of the house – with irregular clumps of trees but making a charming effect to either side of the allee. Beautiful English greenery which no other country can match” (Simon 1992, 88).

4.4.29 Unfortunately, Simon does not provide a source for this 1768 description, but the reference to the menagerie is interesting and the first (and only) time this is mentioned in connections with the gardens.

4.4.30 With the exception of the avenues or *allees* (which do not appear to represent a *patte d’oie* arrangement), very few of these features are shown on Jefferys’ 1775 map of Yorkshire and the representation of the Hall at this date is still very diagrammatic (see figure 4). At this date, the main access to the Hall appears to be from the east, although a number of shorter roads are shown to the north and north-east. To the north of the Hall, a single drain is shown crossing the area of the park, with a rectangular fenced area of woodland or parkland to the north-east, representing the Old Deer Park. On the south side of the Hall, three formal avenues of trees are shown extending out in a westerly, southerly and south-easterly direction, apparently running as far as the Ouse. J Armstrong’s novel about Beningbrough, written in 1836 but set in the late 18th century, describes tall elms growing on the east side of the house and also an avenue of beeches situated beside the Ouse (Michaels 1986); it is however unclear whether he is referring to real or imagined features. The novel also notes that the principal line of communication is across the ferry to Nun Monkton and a second link was over the fields east to Shipton and the coach road from York in the north (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 15).

4.4.31 There are a number of early 19th century maps showing the park and Hall in increasing detail. Greenwood’s 1817 map of Yorkshire (see figure 5) appears to show two parallel formal avenues of trees running south from the Hall (although this may be a diagrammatic depiction), with another to the west. To the north of the Hall, there appears to be another avenue orientated north-east/south-west along the line of a track and beyond this, the line of a drain is shown. The park does not appear to extend beyond the drain at this time. A road or track runs north from the drain towards Newton, crossing a dashed line representing the township boundary between Newton and Beningbrough. The eastern approach to the Hall is depicted as a straight alignment (NTSMR 34129), passing between the Stable block and possibly the walled garden, while there is another route running around the east and south sides of the park to the Newton-on-Ouse ferry.

4.4.32 Cary’s 1832 map of North and East Yorkshire is of little use, but Thomas Rhodes’ map of the River Ouse, published in 1834, contains more detail (see figure 6) (YCA PH 486/9124 no 23). The principal function of the latter was to show the course of the river and any depiction of the countryside to either side is consequently less complete and perhaps less reliable. However, the map shows a road approaching the Hall from the north, with the dashed tree-lined track or road running off to the north-east to provide a link with the newly created New Road (NTSMR 34128). The map also shows the straight eastern approach, although the walled garden is not depicted, and the track around the south-east corner of the park has a different alignment

(although this might be an cartographical error). As with the 1817 plan, the Hall is depicted, together with another structure (possibly the brewhouse / laundry yard or perhaps a previously unrecorded structure) to the west, and the park does not appear to extend north beyond the east-west drain. Further trees are shown to the south of the Hall, with a track leading to the Nun Monkton Ferry running adjacent to the Ouse, at which point a “crossing” is shown. A “towing path” is also shown between the track and the river.

- 4.4.33 The comments of William Sawrey Gilpin, the nephew and pupil of the landscape designer the Reverend William Gilpin, provide one of the few descriptions of the park as it appeared in the early 19th century, and is reproduced in Appendix 1/6 below. The four before and after sketches accompanying Gilpin’s instructions also provide some information, especially the view to the south of the Hall looking towards the Ouse. The “before” view (which does not form a proposal as has been previously stated (Michaels 1986)), shows a first sunk fence and second sunk fence, separating the area known as Sheep Pasture; the line of the second sunk fence may still survive as an earthwork (see NTSMR 30850 below). As previously noted, the extent to which Gilpin’s proposals were taken up is unclear; it would appear that some of his planting advice was followed to the south of the Hall but in the general the scheme was not implemented (Michaels 1986). Copies of Gilpin’s sketches, taken from Michaels (1989) are also included in Appendix 1/6 below; the locations of the originals are currently unknown.
- 4.4.34 The earliest detailed cartographic depictions of the park (as examined by this historic landscape survey) date from the mid 19th century. Two maps of the townships of Beningbrough and Newton upon Ouse, both dated 1841, are held at Beningbrough Hall (see figures 7a and 7b). These appear to be contemporary to tithe maps, although the location of the accompanying schedules is unknown. Described from north to south, the Coach Road (NTSMR 34102) passes through the entrance from Newton-upon-Ouse and then runs southwards obliquely towards the Hall, passing between small oval clumps in the north part of the park; a number of further footpaths are shown in this area, including one which makes an exterior circuit of the north part of the park (see NTSMRs 34093, 34100, 34103 & 34104 below). The road crosses the line of the township boundary between Newton and Beningbrough, passing sparsely planted parkland to the east. This area of parkland to the south of the township boundary contains a number of straight lines of trees, probably marking former field boundaries, as well as the apparent remains of a north-east/south-west avenue, perhaps a remnant of the similar feature shown here in 1817 and 1834 (NTSMR 34128). Two further double avenues are visible to the south and west of the Hall, in the same position as the features shown here on late 18th century maps (NTSMRs 34097-34099). To the south of the Hall, the parkland is again sparsely planted with oval-shaped clumps, but to the north-east, a number of features are shown (see figure 7a). Principal amongst these are two ponds, one very large example running north-south (the Carp Pond – NTSMR 30847), and another narrower example (the Tench Pond – NTSMR 30848) to the north-east aligned east-west. Two lines of trees run from the east end of the latter towards the wooded walkway later known as the Avenue (see below). The Avenue continues north to Pike Ponds Plantation, which contained three small rectangular ponds forming a disjointed U-shape at this time (NTSMR 30849). The wooded walkway later known as the Larch Walk (NTSMR 34100) ran north-west from the plantation as far as footpath forming an exterior circuit around the north part of the park. All of these sites are described in more detail below.
- 4.4.35 The 1852 Ordnance Survey 6” map (surveyed in 1848) depicts the park in great detail, including the form of the planting to the north and south, and also provides names for

the different areas of the park (see figure 8). To the north of the Hall, the Coach Road runs south from Newton Lodge, past an area named as “The Falls”, lying outside the shaded park area. The road crosses the dashed Newton / Beningbrough township boundary, and enters an area of parkland dotted with scattered oval and sub-circular clumps. Around these clumps are lines of trees; rather than marking the remains of landscape features such as the formal avenues shown in previous maps, they appear to be remnants of enclosed fields to the north of the Hall, and they can be correlated with those shown in 1841. Running parallel and to the west of the Coach Road is part of the long-distance circuit around the park known as the Park Walk, together with a footpath running adjacent to the Ouse and leading to the Nun Monkton Ferry. As the Coach Road progresses southward, to cross the Bravener Bank area, the names “Bravener Gate” and “Bravener Bower” are also shown. The Hall itself is shown surrounded by an area of woodland and formal gardens, contained within a ha-ha. To the east are the kitchen garden and the American Garden; the north-south aligned pond shown in 1841 is now named as the Carp Pond, with the addition of a boat house (NTSMR 34130) at the south-west corner. Further to the north-east, and set at a right angle to the Carp Pond, is the Tench Pond, with the Larch Walk and Pike Ponds to the north.

- 4.4.36 To the south of the Hall, the possible remains of two of the formal avenues depicted on the 18th century maps may be seen to the west and south-west, although they seem somewhat depleted since 1841; otherwise, the pattern of depicted tree planting is very similar to that in the north parkland. The park to the south of the Hall is divided into four large fields or enclosures, named as “Well Garth”, “Coney Garth”, “Nut Flat” and “Ferry Ings”; the north-east corner of Well Garth contains a sub-rectangular dashed feature adjacent to the ha-ha named as “Site of the Old Hall or Manor House” (NTSMR 30842). The Hall is screened from the Ouse by a strip of woodland named as The Belt, with a bridle path running around the southern edge of the park towards the site of the Nun Monkton Ferry. Outside the park, to the north-east, “Beningbrough Old Deer Park” is marked on the map. The park is centred on Park House Farm, with the northern boundary defined by the “Park Rein” and the southern by the Wadeland Dike and another “Park Rein”. Once again, these sites are discussed in more detail in the sections below.
- 4.4.37 Several detailed written descriptions of the environment of the Hall also exist from the mid 19th century, but these tend to concentrate on the more formal gardens than the park landscape; for example, in 1859 it was noted that the gardens comprised 12 acres rather than the seven acres existing today (Michaels 1986).
- 4.4.38 Writing in the later 19th century, one source noted that the park was “well timbered with oak, beech, chestnut, lime and some fine old elm trees, the latter the remains of the Avenues, which the architect had planted” (Michaels 1986). The Ordnance Survey 1893 25” map (surveyed 1892) shows only a few significant changes from 1852. The Carp Pond depicted in 1852 is not shown at all in 1893, whilst the Tench Pond to the north has been altered by the addition of several projections from both of its long sides. The remains of formal avenues may still be visible to the west and south-west of the Hall, but otherwise the parkland planting is much as shown in 1852.
- 4.4.39 The Ordnance Survey 1893 survey also forms the basis of a very large estate map held at the Hall. This map depicts the extent of the Beningbrough estates at that time, with the boundaries of individual holdings within the estate shaded in different colours (see figure 10). It contains no pictorial information on the park not already shown on the 1893 survey, but it does include pencil annotations noting the trees present in different areas; for example, the large oval clump in the south-west corner of Ferry Ings bears the annotation “10 or 12 oaks”.

- 4.4.40 Further changes took place to the park immediately surrounding the Hall in the early 20th century. The Ordnance Survey 1910 6" map shows that the south end of the Coach Road (NTSMR 34102) had been altered to create a more formal approach aligned on the centre of the Hall's north front (see figure 9). The line of the ha-ha (NTSMR 31358) had also been altered by extending it further to the south of the Hall, whilst skating ponds (NTSMRs 31356 & 34087) had been created to the north and south. A small structure is shown adjacent to Bravener Gate, although the scale of the map makes it difficult to discern its function. However, on the 1909 25" map it is clearly shown as a boat house (NTSMR 34110), with a slipway to the west running down to the Ouse. The boathouse is believed to have been demolished in c.1955 (Michaels 1986). It is suggested, based on photographic evidence contained in the 1916 sale catalogue of the estate, that the Lime Avenue (NTSMR 34075) to the north of the Hall was laid out during or shortly before 1916 (Michaels 1986).

Archaeological Sites

Site of the presumed earlier house and adjacent features (NTSMRs 30842 & 34091)

- 4.4.41 A location to the east-south-east of the existing Hall has been proposed as both the site of an earlier manor house or grange and the Bouchier's first house at Beningbrough which was constructed during the late 16th century (NTSMR 30842). As noted above, the area is marked as a sub-rectangular platform adjacent to the ha-ha on the Ordnance Survey map of 1852, and is labelled "Site of Old Hall or Manor House" (see figure 8). By the time of the 1893 edition, the site had been moved slightly further to the south and was marked with a cross; this is still the case today with the modern maps simply drawing on the earlier depiction as a source (see figure 9).
- 4.4.42 The site is represented by a low but large sub-rectangular platform, c.36m long (east-west) by c.20m wide (north-south), located immediately adjacent to the south-east curve of the ha-ha. The platform is not well defined and is crossed to the east of centre by a shallow gully which is visible intermittently for some distance to the south beyond the edge of the platform. On the north side of the main platform, there may be a smaller platform, c.12m wide. Adjacent to this, the base or face of a c.3m long section of wall is visible eroding out of the south side of the ha-ha bank. This wall is aligned north-east/south-west and is built of light brown slop-moulded brick; an adjacent loose brick has dimensions of 0.24m by 0.06m by 0.12m, with lime mortar attached.
- 4.4.43 A small excavation on the main platform adjacent to the ha-ha uncovered traces of a brick structure, of possibly late 16th or early 17th century date (Cross 1984). The accompanying report estimated the size of the main platform to be c.100m in length, over twice the size of the existing feature. It is therefore possible that the author was including another feature further to the south, which may be either a natural south-facing bank or a natural bank that has been augmented at a later date. The 1695 inventory notes that the recently enlarged house had at least nine rooms on the ground floor, and so it must have been quite an impressive structure. There were also apparently some excavations undertaken on the site in the 1920s by amateur archaeologists, but no further information is known (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). Today, the whole area is currently crossed by stock and farm vehicles, and considerable rutting has resulted (see plates 5 and 6).
- 4.4.44 To the south of the features described above, there are further earthworks covering an area of c.40sqm (NTSMR 34091). There are three main features, a shallow east-west aligned sub-rectangular depression c.20m long and c.10m wide, with two similar but

narrower features to the south and south-west. To the east of these, there may be a small levelled area or terrace c.20m square, with denuded ridge and furrow (NTSMR 34083) to the south. The exact relationship of these features to the manor house site just to the north is unclear, as the strip of land in between has been heavily damaged by the movement of farm vehicles and cattle poaching. However, they might represent gardens or perhaps farm buildings associated with the main Bouchier house, or they could be of a non-contemporary date (see below). Alternatively, these earthworks may be associated with the east-west canal as depicted by Buck (see NTSMR 30850 below), and even possibly the north-south Carp Pond, thus making longitudinal and radiating water features; further research is obviously needed before this hypothesis can be confirmed.

- 4.4.45 A curving boundary (NTSMR 34086) to the south of this complex, running off to the east along the base of later garden features (see NTSMR 30850 below) might also be associated with the earlier manor house, perhaps representing a boundary between the demesne or arable / parkland, or perhaps even be an early flood defence earthwork.

Former boat house, west bank of the River Ouse (NTSMR 34110)

- 4.4.46 The site of a boat house was identified to the north of Bravener Bank. It may be shown as early as 1852 but is not named as such. In 1909 it is named as a “Boat House” and is depicted as a rectangular structure with a slipway to the west leading down to the Ouse. It was apparently demolished in c.1955 and stone footings were noted in 1986 (Michaels 1986); these could not be located by the current survey. The remains are now scattered but part of the former slipway can be seen as slight earthworks in periods of low vegetation growth (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*).

The Carp Pond and associated boat house (NTSMRs 30847 and 34130)

- 4.4.47 The largest of the various ponds within the survey area is the Carp Pond, located to the north of Home Farm. The pond is now represented by a north-south aligned linear depression, c.70m long, c.16m wide and up to c.0.8m deep; both sides are lined with mature trees. The depression splays outward slightly towards its southern end and becomes difficult to trace; however, it may continue into a garden to the south, where a similar feature is partly visible. Currie (1992) suggests that the pond may be late medieval or early post-medieval in date, and associated with the Bouchier’s earlier house to the south-east of the present Hall, although a watching brief monitoring drainage works in 1995 suggested that the west bank of the pond may in fact be a medieval field boundary (Newman 1995).

- 4.4.48 The pond is shown as a large rectangular feature in 1841 (see figure 7a) but is first described as the “Carp Pond” in 1852, when a boat house (NTSMR 34130) is shown in a small enclosure off the south-west corner; this maps also suggests that the pond was originally c.100m long (see figure 8). It remained water filled until at least 1907, but was later infilled with rubbish (Michaels 1986). The alignment of the road approaching the Hall from the east suggests that it post-dates the pond, as it is sharply angled to run around the pond’s north end.

The Tench Pond (NTSMR 30848)

- 4.4.49 To the north-east of the Carp Pond is the Tench Pond. Currie suggests that this pond may be 16th century in date, based on its relationship to the Carp Pond (Currie 1992). The pond is depicted in 1841 as a long rectangular earthwork with two parallel lines of trees extending from the east end as far as the next field boundary to the east (see figure 7a), which might imply that it was originally twice its current length; these

lines of trees are depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1852 map as dashed lines (see figure 8). By 1893 bays had been added to the north and south sides, with a ramp or bay at the west end. In 1909 several small enclosures are shown attached to the western bay on the north side.

- 4.4.50 The present pond is aligned east-west, and measures c.110m long by c.10m wide. It is in a relatively poor condition with the interior clogged by dead trees and other vegetation, and there is some cattle poaching around the edges (see plate 7). Two ramped bays are visible on the north side, with further examples at the south-west corner and at the west end. The sides of the bays are built of red slop-moulded brick (average dimensions 0.22m by 0.07m by 0.11m) laid in English Garden Wall Bond; the east wall of the western bay on the north side of the pond may have an arched culvert visible at the base (see plate 8). To the west of this bay, there is a U-shaped depression with a concrete slab in the base. The sloping floors of the bays / ramps are also in brick. It was previously suggested that the ramped bays were used for washing down carriages or coaches, but they are more likely to represent watering access points for stock; there are several other examples scattered around the estate (see below). A very shallow depression at the south-east corner of the pond might represent the course of an underground culvert, but otherwise the supply and drainage system for the pond is not clear.

Ponds in Pike Ponds Plantation (NTSMR 30849)

- 4.4.51 A series of ponds, earthworks and other features are located in Pike Ponds Plantation. Three rectangular ponds are depicted here in 1841 and in 1852, forming a disjointed U-shape open to the north. They are named as “Pike Ponds” but they do not appear on subsequent maps until 1969, suggesting that they became disused and were allowed to silt up. The existing ponds are clearly modern creations and they appear to result from a re-modelling of the earlier features by a previous estate manager using a JCB excavator in the 1980s (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). Immediately to the west of the ponds, there are a series of interconnected linear depressions, averaging c.2m wide and up to c.0.3m in depth. It was previously suggested that the whole complex might form the remains of a late medieval fishpond complex (Currie 1992). However, given the previous disturbance, it is difficult to interpret the earthworks, and to know how much of the “complexity and internal logic of these earthworks” described by Currie results from recent work.

Other ponds or watering places

- 4.4.52 There are several other smaller ponds scattered around the Beningbrough Hall estate. There is an oval pond (NTSMR 34066) located to the north of High Closes, with the remains of a stock access ramp, represented by ruinous slop-moulded brickwork, at the south end; the pond has been present since at least 1841. A larger sub-rectangular pond to the south (NTSMR 34071) is also first shown at the same date.
- 4.4.53 To the west of Nut Flat, a pond first shown in 1852 survives as a poorly defined sub-circular depression and a smaller, more rectangular, structure may be depicted just to the north (NTSMR 34081). The site of another pond (NTSMR 34092), shown with two ramps in 1893 and 1967, has recently been infilled in an arable field on the south side of Coney Garth. A decayed pond (NTSMR 34096) to the south of Pike Ponds Plantation was also once provided with a ramp but only ruined sections of wall now remain on the edge of the earthwork; there is no trace of a small building shown to the west in 1852 (NTSMR 34112).

Drains and culverts

- 4.4.54 A drain cover (NTSMR 34065) was noted within The Falls in the north part of the park, just to the south of the township boundary. This appears as a “Flag” at the same date, and it is possible that the drain was created by culverting a former open watercourse shown on earlier maps running along the north side of the adjacent township boundary. The cover itself is represented by a c.1.5m square sandstone slab laid over a brick chamber of similar dimensions. The chamber is at least 2m deep; water is visible in the base running in from the north-east and exiting to the south-west. The slab is surrounded by a low horseshoe-shaped bank, and the chamber discharges into a drain visible in the east bank of the Ouse, emerging from beneath a modern brick retaining wall.
- 4.4.55 A similar brick-built chamber (NTSMR 34084) survives to the south of the Hall in the south-east part of Ferry Ings. Water appears to run into the chamber from the north side and exit to the south, presumably draining into the River Ouse. A curvilinear gully to the north-west of the chamber, c.10m wide and c.0.3m deep, has the appearance of an old hollow way but it is actually associated with relatively recent drainage works (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*).
- 4.4.56 It is to be expected that there are numerous other underground culverts and drains within the Beningbrough estate, bringing and taking water to the various ponds, including the former skating rinks to the north-west and south-west of the Hall (NTSMRs 31356 and 34087; see below). There are also presumably extensive underground water control systems relating to the supply of water to the Hall from the Water Tower (NTSMR 31357; see below) on the east bank of the river, and for the former gardens to the south of the Hall. As also noted above, the historic maps (e.g. 1817 and 1834, see figures 5 and 6) depict a watercourse or drain running east-west through the central part of the park to the north of the Hall, of which nothing now remains. However, apart from the few features noted above and below, primarily inspection hatches and chambers, there were very few surface indications of these systems at the time of the survey.

Flood defences

- 4.4.57 Flood defences (NTSMR 34067 and 34108) survive around the west and south edges of the park. Although there are minor variations along their length, these defences are usually represented by a substantial bank with a flat top (now used as a footpath), c.3m in width. There is a steeply sloping bank up to c.1.5m in height on the park side, and a similar bank c.1m high on the river side. There is then a flattened area up to c.5m wide, affected in many places by land movement and slippage, and then a steep eroding bank leading down to the river itself. No retaining or revetting of the riverside was noted, although in one or two places lines of timber posts are visible within the river itself; these posts are probably the remains of piling work carried out in the late 19th century by the Dawney family (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*).
- 4.4.58 The flood defences can be split into two sections. The northern section, running south from the north end of the park, is c.430m long (NTSMR 34067). There is then a gap of c.220m before the defences resume again and continue around the remainder of the park perimeter where it borders the Ouse (NTSMR 34108). The age of the defences are unknown; they may have been initially constructed when the existing Hall was built in the early 18th century, and they might have replaced another curving earthwork more inland (see NTSMR 34086 above). By 1802, the northern defences were in use as a trackway from Newton Lodge to the Nun Monkton Ferry, whilst the southern section was at least partly formed by a bridle road leading to the same place

(see below). They are first shown in detail in 1851 by which date they had assumed their current plan form.

Architectural items

- 4.4.59 A collection of various architectural fragments (NTSMR 34079) lies in an area of scrub to the south-west of the Racquets Court. They are mostly stone roofing slates but they also include several pieces of chamfered mullion or transom and a pair of c.2m long stone barley twist columns. Some of the mullion and transom fragments came from the presumed site of the earlier manor house (see NTSMR 30842 above) and may be of 16th or 17th century date. The barley twist columns were recovered from a site nearer to the Hall, along with an elaborate 18th century stone table top (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). The age and original provenance of these latter items are unclear, but they may be well be mid to late 17th century in date, perhaps forming a remnant of the Bouchier's enlarged manor house as described in the 1695 inventory.
- 4.4.60 Part of a stone column retaining its capital (NTSMR 34082) previously survived within the belt of woodland on the north bank of the River Ouse, to the south of Nut Flat; it is now lost. The column was measured and drawn by Ivan Hall, and it has been noted that the stone used at Beningbrough and for the early 18th century repairs to the north transept at Beverley Minster is geologically identical (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). It may be that William Thornton diverted some of the Beverley-bound stone, sourced from St Mary's Abbey in York, to Beningbrough; he was working on both projects at the same time.

Built Heritage

The Hall and associated buildings

- 4.4.61 The Hall (NTSMR 31351) and its associated grounds (approximately defined as the area enclosed by the ha-ha) were specifically excluded from the study area. However, the various buildings previously recorded were briefly visited and commented upon for completeness. The Hall is a Grade I Listed Building, while the walls and gates to the north are Grade II Listed (NTSMR 31352) (DOE 1987, 1-2).
- 4.4.62 The outbuildings to the west of the Hall include the Brew House (NTSMR 31353), the Laundry House (NTSMR 31354) and the adjacent yard (NTSMR 31355); all these structures are Grade II Listed Buildings (DOE 1987, 2-3), and it is possible that these buildings are shown on maps of 1817 and 1834 to the west of the Hall (see figures 5 and 6). The Brew House is built of slop-moulded orange brick laid in English bond, and the south elevation contains a number of inserted and blocked openings. The Laundry House is also of slop-moulded brick, but slightly pinker in colour, laid in English Garden Wall bond. The west wall of the yard is contemporary with the Brew House and is built of the same brickwork, but other sections are built of similar brickwork to that seen in the north wall of the walled garden. The south yard wall incorporates three broad buttresses, the western one has had a doorway inserted through it while there are two blocked windows in the central one. The size of some of the bricks in the south yard wall suggests that they might have been reused from the 16th / 17th century manor house located to the south-east of the Hall (NTSMR 30842). A previous report has concluded that there is no remaining evidence to suggest that brewing ever took place in the Brew House (Newman 1991).
- 4.4.63 The structures to the east of the Hall include the stable block (NTSMR 31360), the Garden House (NTSMR 31699), the Vine House (NTSMR 30846), the walled garden

(NTSMR 30845), and a western continuation of the north garden wall (NTSMR 31359). The stable block, walled garden and continuation wall are all Grade II Listed Buildings (DOE 1987, 4-5).

- 4.4.64 The walled garden (NTSMR 30845) is a particularly impressive structure which has been restored in recent years. The north wall was originally heated, and there are three stoking houses (originally four) positioned along the outer north side from which flues would have passed into the wall. The walls of the garden are of brick, laid in a predominantly Flemish bond, and there is some evidence for repair or phasing. Archaeological investigations prior to restoration included a geophysical survey and excavation. The glazed Vine House (NTSMR 30846) on the north side of the walled garden is in a good condition, and some of the original wrought- and cast-iron ventilation mechanism bears the cast mark “W Richardson & Co Darlington”.
- 4.4.65 As noted in Section 2.7 above, a small archaeological excavation was also carried out in 1991 in advance of the installation of fire-fighting tanks just to the north-east of the Hall (Cale 1991; NTSMR 30851). The excavation was done to search for traces of one of the service wings flanking the forecourt shown here in the painting of 1751 (see plate 3). No traces of any structure were found but in 1992, immediately to the east, a spread of red brick was uncovered during tree planting. The foundations of a brick wall were also observed in the trench dug for the water supply to the tanks (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). Other small-scale excavations were undertaken in 2001 to record the gate opening mechanism on the north side of the Hall (Mark Newman, *pers. comm.*). Another archaeological watching brief undertaken in 1994 uncovered the remains of an 19th century outbuilding to the east of the Hall (Newman 1994; NTSMR 30844).

Home Farm complex

- 4.4.66 The extant building stock within the Home Farm complex has been recorded in detail by a National Trust Vernacular Building Survey (VBS) (Menuge 1988c). As required by the project brief, these buildings were not examined in detail by the historic landscape survey, although any changes or alterations which might have taken place since the previous survey were noted. The following text therefore represents a summary of the known information, mostly taken from the VBS report, to place the structures within their wider context. Figure 13 provides a concordance between the VBS and the NTSMR numbers.
- 4.4.67 In 1841, what was to become the Home Farm complex appears as two separate groups of buildings, with a rectangular enclosure to the east (see figure 7a). The northern group is formed by three structures, two parallel east-west aligned buildings and a third north-south building to the west; these structures are also shown on earlier plans of 1817 and 1834 (see figures 5 and 6). The southern group comprises a rectangular yard with an east-west aligned building at both the north and south ends. Both groups of buildings appear to have undergone minor modification by 1852, at which date the northern group is named as “Work Shops” with a pump to the south-east (see figure 8). After 1852, a major programme of re-building was undertaken, producing a group of elaborate farm buildings designed in accordance with the best of contemporary agricultural practices. It is likely that piecemeal alterations continued throughout the 19th century, although, with the exception of a covered foldyard, the farm’s core ground plan has altered little since 1893. It now forms part of an intensive dairy farm, and the internal fixtures and fittings have been modernised in line with contemporary practice.

- 4.4.68 The present northern group of farm buildings is formed by three structures, now contiguous but separate in the earliest forms. The northernmost building is an eight bay cartshed (NTSMR 31697), open-fronted to the north, and probably dating from the second half of the 19th century, but now converted to a garage (Menuge 1988c, Building 4). It may be rebuilt on the site of an earlier structure, as a building is shown in this approximate position in 1841 and earlier (see above). To the west is a bungalow (NTSMR 31696), probably comprising the “four bay Open Cart Shed and Cake House” noted in the 1916 estate sale catalogue (Menuge 1988c, Building 3). Menuge states that this structure dates from the first half of the 19th century but it is not shown in 1841, and appears to have been built between this date and its first depiction on the 1852 Ordnance Survey map. The third building in the group is another bungalow (NTSMR 31695), also converted from former agricultural buildings shown in 1834, 1841 and 1852; it may incorporate the “Weighing Machine House” referred to in 1916 (Menuge 1988c, Building 2). Since the VBS survey, a single storey structure has been added to the south side of the lounge of this building, utilising an existing modern brick wall. It has a slated roof, hipped to the south end and the west wall is almost entirely glazed; access to the addition must be through a doorway inserted into the south wall of the lounge. A stone trough with the inscription “GH 416” noted by Menuge in 1988 could not be located by the present survey.
- 4.4.69 The earliest elements of the southern group of farm buildings are formed by a stable and cart shed (NTSMR 31362), and a barn (NTSMR 31361). The former appears to be shown in 1841, while Menuge dates the latter as early 19th century or possibly earlier (Menuge 1988c, Building 1a). A building is shown in the position of the barn in 1841, but it appears to be much larger than the existing structure, and Menuge makes no reference to any evidence for alteration. To the east of the barn, there is a cow house (NTSMR 34117) apparently built in several stages. The west end, facing into a covered foldyard (see below), may be shown in 1852 but the east end developed later and has some 20th century alterations (Menuge 1988c, Building 1f). The major phase of mid 19th century building activity undertaken after 1852, represented by three buildings, all of which make use of elaborate external brickwork, including panelled pilasters, round-arched windows and oculi (see plate 10). The earliest of these is probably a cow house (NTSMR 34113), which is slightly less elaborate in its detailing than either a cowhouse and granary (NTSMR 34114) to the west, and a cartshed with granary over (NTSMR 34115) to the west of this. Later infilling is represented by a covered foldyard (NTSMR 34116), which was roofed over after 1910 (Menuge 1988c, Building 1g). Several of the buildings within this part of the complex are listed as being of Special Architectural or Historic Interest (DOE 1987, 5-6).
- 4.4.70 A pair of cottages (NTSMR 31698), built between 1909 and 1916 (Menuge 1988c, Building 5), stand to the north-east of the southern farm complex. A small free-standing brick-built garage has been constructed in the garden of each cottage since the VBS was undertaken.
- 4.4.71 To the south and east of the main farm complex are a group of five modern sheds, many steel framed, four of which were described by the VBS (NTSMRs 31701 to 31704; Menuge 1988c, Buildings 8 to 11). The fifth (NTSMR 34078) was erected in 1998 and is a very large shed housing a circular milking parlour and milk storage tanks.

The Horse Surgery (NTSMR 31700)

- 4.4.72 Away from the main Home Farm complex is an isolated outlying agricultural building known as The Horse Surgery (NTSMR 31700). It lies some c.200m to the north-east, at the east end of the Tench Pond. It is a single storey building, first depicted in 1841, with later lean-to additions (Menuge 1988c, Building 7). The name probably stems from the use of the building following Lady Chesterfield's setting up of a horse stud in the park during the 1920s.

Newton Lodge (NTSMR 31363)

- 4.4.73 It has been suggested by several authors (e.g. Menuge 1988a) that Newton Lodge was constructed between c.1780-90, possibly to the design of Samuel Wyatt, who also designed the identical entrance gates at Thirkelby Hall near Thirsk. As previously noted, the position of the Lodge is curious, as the land to the south was not formally taken into the park until 1815 under the terms of the second Newton Enclosure Award (Price & Ruffhead 1973, 52-63). It may be that the Lodge was built on Earle land at the south end of the village, in an attempt to control access to the track running adjacent to the River Ouse leading to the ferry crossing at Nun Monkton; as noted above, Giles Earle was complaining bitterly in 1802 about the public traffic using this route (see Appendix 1/7).
- 4.4.74 The Lodge itself is formed by a pedimented arched gateway flanked by two rooms for gatekeepers. It is built of limestone ashlar and is flanked by belts of woodland to either side. The Lodge was disused at the time of the survey but it appears in reasonable condition; some damage to a gate leaf noted by the VBS in 1988 has since been repaired. The structure is a Grade II Listed Building (DOE 1987, 10).

Beningbrough Lodge (NTSMR 31684)

- 4.4.75 Although this entrance to the park is the most convenient if travelling to or from York, it was not marked with a gatehouse or lodge until the early 19th century; it is shown on the 1841 map but not the earlier 1834 map, although the latter may not be an accurate depiction. The original gatehouse was square in plan, of two storeys and built in ashlar, with a contemporary wrought-iron fence to the east. A two storey extension was added to the west side, possibly in the mid 19th century, with further linked outbuildings at a later date. The screen wall and gateway to the east of the lodge were probably added in a number of stages, the gatepiers being the earliest surviving part (Menuge 1987b).

Water tower (NTSMR 31357)

- 4.4.76 The water tower or pump house has been recorded in detail by the VBS (Menuge 1987a) and only a summary is given here. The tower stands c.280m to the west of the Hall on the east bank of the River Ouse, on the site of an artesian well. It is not shown on the 1834 plan, but is first depicted in 1841 as an unnamed square structure while in 1851 it is marked as a "Pump Ho", indicating that a steam engine had been installed, and it appears to have been L-shaped in plan. The tower seems to have started life as a smaller two-storey structure with an attached engine house, which was dramatically heightened to the existing c.15.5m high castellated tower some time before c.1875. The building was used to pump water to the basement of the Hall for domestic use and also at a later date to a nearby ice skating rink (NTSMR 31356; see below). By 1916 an oil engine and turbine had been installed and the tower only become redundant in the 1950s when mains water was installed at the Hall. It too is a

Grade II Listed Building (DOE 1987, 4), and was derelict with some minor damage evident at the time of the survey.

Skating ponds (NTSMRs 31356 & 34087)

- 4.4.77 The remains of two skating ponds or rinks are present within the park, both constructed between 1893 and 1907. The one to the north of the Hall (NTSMR 31356) is by far the better preserved, and is formed by a shallow sub-rectangular or oval concrete lined depression, c.50m in length (see plate 11). The water inlet is located at the south-east corner whilst the outlet is placed on the centre of the south side; both have stone slabs covering adjacent inspection chambers. The exposed floor of the pond is made up of large concrete slabs, with grass growing in the joints. It is a Grade II Listed Building (DOE 1987, 3).
- 4.4.78 The pond to the south of the Hall (NTSMR 34087), also described as a skating rink in 1907, is now represented by an oval-shaped water-filled depression, c.40m long and surrounded by willow trees, with no visible trace of an artificial lining. A footpath is shown leading from the Hall around the pond and southwards to Nun Monkton Ferry on early 20th century maps.

Racquets Court (NTSMR 31694)

- 4.4.79 The Racquets Court stands to the immediate south-west of the Home Farm complex and was recorded in detail by the VBS (Menuge 1988b) (see plate 12). It was built in 1901 at a cost of £392. The building is currently used as a store or workshop, and no internal fittings survive.

Stock drinking trough (NTSMR 34076)

- 4.4.80 To the south-west of the Hall, a small pond shown in 1841 had been converted into a trough by 1893. It survives as such today, but in a ruinous condition (see plate 13). The trough is slightly terraced into a natural slope and is c.25m long in total, running north-south along the contours. It is built of dark red slop-moulded brick, rendered in places, and was originally divided into a number of compartments or cells of equal size. The trough may also have been used as, or even originated as, a watercress bed (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*) but no evidence to substantiate this has yet been found.

Ice house (NTSMR 34077)

- 4.4.81 An ice house (NTSMR 34077) is also marked on the 1852 Ordnance Survey map, in what now forms the garden of The Bungalow at Home farm. Thallon reports the remains of the arched entrance as being partially visible within garden vegetation, but the structure itself was infilled with garden rubbish in the 1930s (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). No remains could be located by the current survey. It is presumed that the ice was obtained from the adjacent Carp Pond (NTSMR 30847).

Roads, Tracks and Paths

- 4.4.82 Although the number of roads, tracks and paths identified by the landscape survey within the area of the park was low, it is clear from an examination of the earthwork evidence and historic maps that the network has been modified over time to respond the needs of the successive owners of the Hall and the surrounding designed landscape. For ease of description, the track and path network is divided into convenient topographical sections.

- 4.4.83 Jefferys' (1775), Greenwood's (1817) and Rhodes' (1834) maps show roads leading to the Hall from the north, via Newton on Ouse, and directly from the east, via the later site of Beningbrough Lodge. There also appears to have been another north-south route within the park in the late 18th century, with a number of east-west linking roads, although these are difficult to correlate with existing features.
- 4.4.84 The main road leading into the park from the north, the Coach Road (NTSMR 34102), originally ran on a curving south-east/north-west alignment through the park directly towards the Hall, the southern section originally partly following the line of an earlier headland (NTSMR 34074; see above). This southern section was altered between 1893 and 1907, when the existing main approach, centred on the north front and forecourt of the Hall was created.
- 4.4.85 The road leading to the Hall from the east (NTSMR 34129) originally ran in a straight line between the stable block and the walled garden (i.e. through the present American Garden), but by 1841 it had been diverted to run north-west around the top of the Carp Pond before turning sharply south-west to run to the front of the Hall (NTSMR 34101). Like the route from the north, the section to the immediate front of the Hall was altered again between 1893 and 1907 to create a more formal approach along a newly created avenue. It is possible that the eastern section of the original alignment is represented by a linear earthwork seen in woodland to the south of the present road, although this is not certain (NTSMR 34135).
- 4.4.86 Two of the early maps of the area, namely Greenwood (1817) and Rhodes (1834), also show a track running in a south-west direction from New Road towards the Hall (NTSMR 34128) (see figures 5 and 6). This route was abandoned by 1841, possibly to be replaced by the Larch Walk (NTSMR 34100), and it does not appear on any of the later plans although the 1841 map does show the remnants of two lines of trees on this general alignment; it is now difficult to correlate the alignment with the present landscape. A further track or path is shown on the 1841 map running from the Coach Road towards the steps adjacent to the Water Tower (NTSMR 34133).
- 4.4.87 There are several other lengths of tracks or paths within the park, which either formed circular routes around the park or were associated with the Nun Monkton Ferry. A section of the peripheral Park Walk (NTSMR 34103), shown in 1841 and on all subsequent historic maps, survives to the north of Home Farm as a tarmaced road leading as far as a pond (NTSMR 34071). The existing track then fades out but cartographic evidence shows that it formerly split into three different routes at this point. One alignment ran east along a field boundary to connect with New Road while another ran a short distance to the north as far as a field boundary; these were probably secondary, field access, routes. The main alignment was the western arm which continued north as a circular route around the northern boundary of the park, past Newton Lodge, and then returning south to the west of the Coach Road via The Belt to Crow Trees and then back to the Hall. Part of the western section of the route is still a designated footpath.
- 4.4.88 Another footpath / track continues the route from the southern end of The Park Walk at Home Farm (NTSMR 34104). This runs south through the Home Farm complex to "Warp Gate" on the southern boundary of the park; the name of "Warp Gate" might suggest that this part of Beningbrough Ings was allowed to periodically flood so that the deposited alluvium would increase the productivity of the meadows. At Warp Gate the path turns sharply to the north-east, to run along The Belt towards Beningbrough Lodge, where it links up with a path through The Avenue (NTSMR 34093) and Larch Walk (NTSMR 34100), before re-joining The Park Walk (NTSMR 34103) at the west end of the Larch Walk; the point at which the path crosses the

main access into the park from the lodge is marked by two cast-iron gates (NTSMRs 34904 and 34905; see below). The western section of the path from Home Farm is now a heavily rutted farm track.

- 4.4.89 The Nun Monkton ferry (NTSMR 34090) was an important crossing point on the River Ouse, and paths approach the site from the north and east. The northern path leaves the village of Newton and runs along the top of the flood defences through The Falls (NTSMR 34067). This path joins the Park Walk at Bravener Gate, possibly representing the site of a gate designed to restrict access along the route; as noted above Giles Earle was complaining about public coach traffic using the park to reach the ferry in 1802. The ferry path leaves the Park Walk where the latter turns south-east to turn to the Hall, and continues along the top of the flood defences here, past the Water Tower; this route is still a public footpath.
- 4.4.90 The eastern approach to the ferry site also utilised a section of the flood defences. This former route from Shipton to the ferry left the New Road at Beningbrough Lodge and ran in a south-west direction along the outer edge of the park, parallel to "The Belt" as far as Warp Gate, from where it ran along the top of the flood defences (NTSMR 34108) to the ferry. As noted above, this route was formalised as an 18ft wide bridle road by the 1815 enclosure award; it is shown on the 1817 and 1834 and subsequent plans and is still designed as a footpath. These earlier plans also show that there was a direct route connecting Beningbrough village with the ferry, through Beningbrough Ings.

Extant Field Boundaries and Wall Furniture

- 4.4.91 The vast majority of the boundaries within the wider estate are modern post and wire, post and rail or electric fences, with some hedgerows concentrated in the High Closes area (see figure 12). The surviving historic brick walls are concentrated around the Hall and associated service courts and gardens, and have been described above. Some of the field boundaries shown on the most modern Ordnance Survey maps (1967) has been removed.
- 4.4.92 Virtually no historic wall furniture, in terms of stone gateposts and walls, was noted within the survey area, over and above those associated with structures already recorded by the VBS. A single surviving length of "estate-type" wrought-iron fencing was identified to the south-east of the Hall. The fence (NTSMR 34080) runs for c.110m and there is a slight earthwork bank 3m wide on the southern side. The fence is of post and rail form; the flattened posts stand 1.02m high and are pierced by four bar-section rails.
- 4.4.93 Two gates are located on either side of the road leading from Beningbrough Lodge, at the point where the peripheral path around the park crosses the road (NTSMRs 34094 and 34095). Both gates are of similar design, with two cylindrical cast-iron posts set 1.52m apart and tapering slightly towards the moulded caps (see plate 14); enough remains of the makers labels to attribute them to the W Thomlinson-Walker foundry in York, and to date them to the second half of the 19th century (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). The posts support a gate of five bar form with diagonal bracing; the upper bar is circular section, whilst all others are rectangular. Both gates retain their original latches and all parts are painted black. They are probably early 19th century in date.
- 4.4.94 A drawing of the Hall in the Victoria County History, viewed from the north-west, shows the skating pond (NTSMR 31356) to be surrounded by cast-iron fencing (Morewood 1968a, 161), but this is no longer extant.

Designed Landscape Features

Early 18th century garden earthworks (NTSMR 30850)

- 4.4.95 As set out above, the earliest known detailed depiction of the Hall and its immediate surroundings is a sketch made by Samuel Buck in c.1720 (Wakefield Historical Publications 1979, 234-235; also reproduced in Simon 1992, 87). This sketch depicts the eastern half of the south front of the Hall, viewed from the south, with a flanking pavilion to the east (see figure 3). Formal gardens are shown running south from the Hall, apparently flanking a central lawned or gravelled walkway. The formal gardens comprise an upper and lower compartment, each containing *parterres de broderie* framed by north-south paths and a *plate bande* of cone-like topiary, divided by an east-west pathway leading to a gateway in the wall on their east side. The gateway is flanked by tall gatepiers surmounted by urns or some other form or ornament. Beneath the lower parterre, a large east-west aligned feature is shown, named as “A Fine Channel” together with another feature, seemingly a fence or railings, to the south (Simon 1992, 87). Aerial photographs taken of this area in July 1990 and subsequently show several features apparently relating to Buck’s sketch, including what appears to be the “Fine Channel” and, more prominently, the north-south aligned pathways (see plate 5), although it is possible that these pathways may be the result of strip grazing (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). The fence as shown by Buck may also survive as an earthwork bank, later depicted as a field boundary (NTSMR 34086).
- 4.4.96 To the south of the present ha-ha (NTSMR 31358), a spread north-east/south-west aligned bank runs south from the ha-ha, and may have a small terrace or platform on its west side. The bank runs as far as a large south-facing bank, which measures c.140m long, c.13m wide and c.2m high. At the foot of this bank there is a shallow platform or terrace, c.10m wide and running parallel to the bank. The platform cannot be seen in the area aligned on the centre of the south front of the Hall, but it reappears to the east as a similarly-sized depression. This feature is almost certainly the remains of the “Fine Channel” shown by Buck in c.1720 and visible on the aerial photographs; it was recorded by Currie as a parchmark in 1992 and may have survived into the 1830s, as one of Gilpin’s “before” sketches shows a “second sunken fence” beyond the line of the first (the ha-ha). A modern post-and wire fence now runs east-west along the southern side of the “channel”.
- 4.4.97 To the south of the remains of the “Channel”, a shallow sub-rectangular depression surrounded by an angled bank is visible, together with two concrete slabs set c.5m apart, presumably relating to more recent drainage. These earthworks run as far as a spread but still prominent bank (NTSMR 34086) which has the same alignment as the remains of the “Channel”; as noted above, this bank was depicted as a field boundary in 1851 but it may be the fence or railings depicted by Buck and it may also have medieval origins or be associated with the earlier manor house site.
- 4.4.98 There are further potential garden earthworks on the south lawn, between the Hall and the ha-ha (NTSMR 34131). Immediately to the south of the footpath adjacent to the Hall there is steep south-facing bank, which appears to return to the south and east at either end, and may have a shallow platform to the front of it. The lawned area to the south has now been levelled, but traces of the original pre 1910 alignment of the ha-ha (NTSMR 31358) can just be made out. Between this and the existing ha-ha, there are several other minor earthwork features, including shallow banks, depressions and a slightly raised sub-circular feature; the later, which looks like a tree planting mound, was created in 1976 to cover the stump of a recently felled Cedar tree (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*).

Mid to late 18th century features

- 4.4.99 Several formal tree avenues are known from the historic maps but any surviving physical evidence for them is scant. A short alignment of two parallel lines of mature trees (NTSMR 34088) set c.6m apart to the south-west of the Hall might be the remains of an avenue shown on the 1841 map (see figure 7a) but it is not in the same position as the avenues shown on the earlier maps. Jefferys' 1775 and Greenwood's 1817 maps both show one or more avenues running south (NTSMR 34097) from the Hall, although none are depicted in 1834. Similarly, an avenue shown to the west of the Hall (NTSMR 34099) in the late 18th and early 19th centuries also survived until 1841. However, the avenue shown as extending to the south-east of the Hall by Jeffery (NTSMR 34098) does not appear on any later maps, and there is no physical trace of it on the ground, and it should be noted that Jefferys' depictions are not always accurate. A further avenue is depicted by both Greenwood (1817) and Rhodes (1834) running north-east from a point to the north of the Hall (NTSMR 34128), but this was removed by 1841.
- 4.4.100 A ha-ha (NTSMR 31358) runs around the west, south and east sides of the Hall and walled garden; Michaels (1986) states that this was created in the late 18th century. The present structure has a back or retaining wall standing c.1.1m high and it is built of a mixture of both slop- and machine-moulded bricks, the former being more prevalent (see plate 9). The bricks are laid in English Garden Wall Bond. The top three courses have been repointed using a cement mortar, whilst the remainder are without mortar; the ha-ha was completely rebuilt in the late 1980s, and all the bricks were reused from the original structure (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). The ditch to the front of the wall is on average c.1.8m to c.2m wide across its flat base and up to c.0.7m in depth. The existing semi-circular deviation in the ha-ha to the south of the Hall's south front is a relatively recent creation, having been put in place between 1893 and 1907. Prior to this, the ha-ha had a much straighter alignment parallel to the south front, and traces of this survive as a denuded earthwork crossing the south lawn (NTSMR 31358).

19th century and 20th century features

- 4.4.101 It is now accepted that the various landscape features within the present park (NTSMR 34111) were established by the Earle and Dawnay families in the 19th century, although the detail as to which specific elements were created by which generation remains to be determined. Michaels (1986) notes that the peripheral plantation running east from Newton Lodge was planted in c.1800-30, whereas most of the rest probably dates to the 1830s. The eastern approach was the subject of proposals made in c.1827 by W S Gilpin (see Appendix 1/6). The belt plantation which runs around southern half of the park is unusual for the time, as it would normally have been broken to give views across the surrounding landscape. The 1841 map shows tree-planting predominately in the informal landscape style, although there are four parallel rows running west and south from the south-west corner of the Hall which might be remnants of those depicted in 1775 by Jeffery (see above). The 1841 map also shows the Hall and kitchen garden to be surrounded by typical Victorian pleasure grounds, together with the walled garden to the east (see figure 7a). The American garden to the east of the walled garden is first depicted on the 1852 map; these were a popular feature of the early 19th century (Simon 1992, 91).
- 4.4.102 The Avenue contains a number of parallel boundary banks and ditches (NTSMR 34093) which have the same north-south alignment as the plantation itself. These actually begin to the south of the Coach Road in the woodland to the west of Beningbrough Lodge. Here, a c.3m wide linear depression, c.0.5m deep and with red

slop-moulded bricks eroding out of the north end, runs along the west side of the plantation. It can also be seen on the north side of the road, continuing as a similar feature but without any traces of brickwork. To its east, a spread bank c.5m wide forms the western boundary of The Avenue. This combination of bank and ditch continues for the whole length of the Avenues, as far as Pike Ponds Plantation, although in some places only a bank is present, or the features are located on the east rather than the west side of the plantation.

- 4.4.103 The Larch Walk (NTSMR 34100) forms a western continuation of the footpath running through The Avenue (see above). The plantation is first definitely shown in 1841, but it is unclear whether this is the same as that depicted on both Greenwood's 1817 and Rhodes's 1834 maps (NTSMR 34128).
- 4.4.104 In 1841, a small unnamed building (NTSMR 34107) is shown to the south of the walled garden, close to the ha-ha; it is named as the "South Bower" in 1852. An "East Bower" is also shown on the latter map to the east in the American Garden, but the name does not appear to relate to any structure. The South Bower is not shown in 1893 and it does not survive as an earthwork or ruin.
- 4.4.105 The last of the avenues (NTSMR 34075) created in the park appears to have been that laid out along the line of the main approach to the house after 1907. Michaels (1986) suggests that a double avenue of limes was planted either side of this approach and extended beyond the line of the altered Coach Road between c.1913-1916; the outer row of the avenue was cut down in c.1988-89 and the inner row was felled in 2001 (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). The original alignment is now discernable as two lines of parallel short linear depressions or holes flanking the main approach and set just inside the lines of newly planted trees, which continue as far as the Coach Road. Beyond the Coach Road, they are replaced by two parallel linear depressions and banks, set c.25m apart and running north for a further c.140m. A number of old trees, perhaps remnants of the original planting scheme, survive at the north end of the western bank and ditch.

Miscellaneous Items

- 4.4.106 A bronze candlestick of unknown date was found in the mid 19th century to the north of Larch Walk (NTSMR 30840; Anon 1859, 26). No further information on this find is currently available.
- 4.4.107 A number of field boundaries are shown in 1852 which no longer survive within the Beningbrough Hall estate. They are located to the south-east and east of Home Farm (NTSMRs 34105 and 34121) and in the High Closes area (NTSMR 34106). The 1841 map also depicts a small building (NTSMR 34132) near the south-east corner of the park, adjacent to The Belt, of which no sign now remains.

4.5 Characterisation of the Resource

- 4.5.1 As mentioned in Section 1.3 above, each of the 113 identified sites (75 archaeological sites, 35 buildings and three items of wall furniture) within the National Trust estate has been categorised in terms of its survival (condition), stability and vulnerability, to assist with the formulation of management strategies. This information is presented as Appendix 5, while Appendix 6 provides a statistical summary.

Archaeological Sites

- 4.5.2 Most of the archaeological sites have a moderate (29 out of 75 or 39%) or bad (13 or 17%) survival. Those sites recorded as having a “bad” grade of survival include the possible manor house site to the south-east of the Hall (NTSMR 30842), the Carp Pond (NTSMR 30847), which has been infilled, and the various denuded earthworks within the park, such as some of the ridge and furrow, boundary banks and ponds (e.g. NTSMRs 34062, 34063, 34070, 34083, 34085, 34089 and 34096). Seven sites are recorded as having a “good” state of survival, including a pond (NTSMR 34071), the earthworks in Larch Walk (NTSMR 34100), the bank in Pike Ponds Plantation (NTSMR 34119) and several roads and tracks. Some 16 sites are thought to have been destroyed, mostly as a result of historic and more recent agricultural activity. These sites mostly comprised field boundaries, but some are buildings and other landscape features such as ponds and avenues which have been identified from cartographic sources but for which no above-ground evidence remains. The survival of ten sites is unknown, for example recovered artefacts or sites identified from field names.
- 4.5.3 A large proportion of the archaeological sites are considered to be stable (36 out of 75 or 48%) are considered to be stable, reflecting the fact that previously damaging actions (e.g. ploughing or infilling) have now largely been curtailed with the consequential stabilisation of the sites. There are 26 sites of unknown stability, representing either those sites now destroyed and for which there may be sub-surface remains, or sites only identified from historic sources. No sites show any rapid deterioration, although 13 are subject to a slow deterioration; these include the presumed manor house site (NTSMR 30842), various ponds (e.g. NTSMRs 30848, 30849, 34081 and 34096), and the flood defences (NTSMRs 34067 and 34108). The pile of architectural fragments close to Home Farm (NTSMR 34079) are also likely to deteriorate if left in their present location.
- 4.5.4 The majority of the archaeological sites also have a low vulnerability (34 out of 75 or 45%), i.e. they were not considered to be at specific risk from the current agricultural regimes. However, many would be at risk if these were to change. Agricultural activity is considered to be the greatest erosion pressure to the archaeological resource, and the effects of any changes to the current land use needs to be considered; this is explored further in Volume 2 of this report. Two sites have a high vulnerability, the presumed manor house site (NTSMR 30842) and the earthworks just to the south (NTSMR 34091) due to the fact that they lie in an area which is subject to the passage of stock and farm vehicles on a regular basis (see plates 5 and 6).

Built Heritage and Wall Furniture

- 4.5.5 As might be expected, the majority of the built heritage is in a good condition (28 out of 35 sites - 80%); those structures which have been destroyed have been recorded as archaeological sites. Only one site was considered to have a “bad” survival, the cattle trough to the west of Crow Trees (NTSMR 34076). The majority of the built heritage is also stable (32 out of 35 – 91%), although three sites were assessed as having a slow deterioration, namely the Listed skating rink to the north-north-west of the Hall (NTSMR 31356), the cattle trough noted above (NTSMR 34076), and the second skating pond to the south-west of the Hall (NTSMR 34087). None of the built heritage was considered to be at risk from current practice or activity, although the continued use of the Home Farm complex means that there is always some potential for future damage or deterioration.

4.5.6 Of the three items of boundary furniture noted, the two gates located on the perimeter walk close to Beningbrough Lodge (NTSMRs 34094 and 34095) are in a good condition, whilst a length of “estate-type” wrought iron fencing to the south-east of the Hall (NTSMR 34080) is slightly less so. All three items have a medium grade of vulnerability.

5 INTERPRETATIVE DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The Historic Landscape Survey has identified or commented on a total of 113 sites (75 archaeological sites, 35 buildings or other elements of the built environment, and three items of wall furniture) within the 152 hectares of the National Trust's Beningbrough Hall estate (see figures 11a-f). As noted in Section 1.3 above, the area of the present hall and gardens was specifically excluded from the area of detailed field survey, but all elements of the built environment were briefly inspected. All identified sites, whether considered by this report or not, are therefore included in the above figures for completeness.
- 5.1.2 There are currently no archaeological sites designated as being of national importance within the National Trust estate, but 15 structures are listed as being Buildings of Special Architectural and Historic Interest (see Chapter 3 above and Volume 2 of this report). All these are all of National Importance; Beningbrough Hall is listed as Grade I, whereas all the others are Grade II. The whole of the estate is also listed by English Heritage as a Grade II Historic Park, in their Parks and Gardens Register.

5.2 Archaeological Sites and Landscape Development

Pre-medieval

- 5.2.1 Pre-medieval sites within the Beningbrough Hall estate are represented by two find spots, a late Mesolithic or Neolithic stone axe (NTSMR 30839) found in the area of High Closes and a "stone implement" (NTSMR 30841) reputed to have been found to the north of Larch Walk. Both these discoveries were made in the late 19th century, and the precise location of the finds, or even the current whereabouts of the artefacts, has still to be confirmed. It was also thought in the 18th century that a Roman road passed through the estate, although this has still to be verified.
- 5.2.2 Of greater importance and potential are the soilmarks noted on aerial photographs taken in May 1985 to the west of the Coach Road, overlooking the River Ouse (see plates 1 and 2; NTSMR 30843). It has been suggested by several authors (e.g. Michaels 1986; Newman 1997) that these features represent the site of a Roman villa and the soilmarks, which appear to depict a U-shaped complex open to the south with side wings, do seem to be convincing. However, the photographs also show soilmarks of adjacent ridge and furrow which are on the same alignment, and the position of the "villa" appears to coincide with a large earthwork platform measuring c.20m by c.35m. The exact relationship between the soilmarks and the ridge and furrow is unclear on the photographs, and it was no clearer (in what is now a pasture field) at the time of the walkover survey. It is also presumed that a villa would not have existed in isolation, but no other finds or discoveries have, to date, been noted from the area although detailed investigation has not been carried out. Nevertheless, the site is undoubtedly of considerable significance, and further archaeological investigation will be needed before any firm interpretation can be assigned; it is also possible that the site could be associated with an "assart of the hermit" mentioned in the 12th century, or possibly represent an early post-medieval feature (see below).
- 5.2.3 Although place-name evidence suggests that many of the villages surrounding the Beningbrough Hall estate are likely to have had their origins in the Anglo-Saxon period, there is, to date, no other direct evidence for any occupation in the study area at this time. However, it is possible that the St Leonard's Hospital landholding had its origins in the early 10th century, and three carucates of land were held in

Beningbrough by the Saxon Asfrothr in the later 10th century, implying the presence of a small estate or landholding at this time (Faull & Stinson 1978, 23N28).

Medieval

- 5.2.4 As described in Section 4.3 above, the medieval landscape in and around the estate incorporated a deer park, owned by St Leonard's Hospital of York. The site of this deer park is thought to be the area depicted on Jefferys' 1775 map (see figure 4) and the Ordnance Survey 1852 map, centred on Park House / Park Farm to the east of the estate. However, the western limit of the park has not been determined with any accuracy; it may be along or in the vicinity of the eastern section of the Park Walk, with the north and south boundaries being represented by the Newton / Beningbrough township boundary (NTSMR 34064) and an earthwork running through Pike Ponds Plantation (NTSMR 34119); the former was named as "Deneburg" and was marked by a ditch in the 12th century (Thallon und (a)). The area thus enclosed would equate to c.210 acres, some 70 acres larger than the documented size of the park, but it is possible that the part of this area (eg. Pike Ponds Plantation) was either woodland or demesne not counted in the acreage; perhaps the earthwork bank in Pike Ponds Plantation should be seen as a woodbank rather than a park pale, and ancient woodland indicator species have been found in this area (Mary Thallon, *pers. comm.*). Thallon (und (a)) also makes the valid point that the boundaries of the park as depicted on the 1852 map may result from the reuse of the park, perhaps by the Bouchiers in the 16th or 17th century. It should be noted that the post-Dissolution history or development of the park, and its subsequent relationship with the present National Trust park (NTSMR 34111), has not yet been researched in any detail.
- 5.2.5 The documents translated by Thallon (see Appendix 1) make it clear that the deer park was only a part of the St Leonard's Hospital's landholding, and the Victoria County History notes that from at least the mid 13th century the Hospital held the whole manor, as well as other land in Newton and surrounding townships (Morewood 1968a, 162). A survey of 1287 records that the Hospital had 560 acres in Beningbrough, of which 366 acres were arable and 136 acres were the park, and that 52½ acres of the grange's 333 acre demesne was let out to a Will Patewyn. Another survey of c.1540 notes that the holding extended to only c.320 acres, including the 140 acre park, now called "Beningborough Lunde". The latter document is very detailed, giving the names of each individual parcel of land, but the lack of later field-name data (eg. the 1841 field schedule) means that only a few of the parcels can currently be identified; those that are named include "Nuttflat" and "Coney Garth" (also called Chapel Garth) (NTSMR 34120), while an area called "Nidderminae" probably lay by the river in the south-west corner of the present estate (Thallon und (a); Smith 1928, 19). The pattern of trees as depicted on the 1841 and 1852 maps suggest that there were also some former fields in the area of the present park to the north of the Hall, and these could represent some of the enclosures named in the c.1540 document (PRO E315 401, transcribed by Thallon - see Appendix 1/4). Also included in the holding were three fields and a house at Cote House (the present Court House) and an area of common in the Forest of Galtres. This, and another document of the same date, also give details of the timber resources in the various areas of woodland.
- 5.2.6 The Hospital would have managed their holding from a grange or outlying farmstead; the 1287 survey names a "capital message" while a c.1540 document describes it as containing "the mansion hows, one oxe hows, one stable, one garnar, one dove hows & three bernnes, one lytill orchard containing one acre & other lytill parcel of grownde lying about the said howse containing one acre" (see Appendix 1/2 and 1/4). Various attempts have been made to locate the site of the grange, where the last

master of the Hospital, Thomas Magnus, was allowed to remain after the Dissolution. It is possible that it lies to the immediate south-east of Beningbrough Hall (NTSMR 30842) or on the site of the existing Beningbrough Grange, to the north-east of the village (NGR SE534589); the latter location is favoured by the Victoria County History (Morewood 1968a, 160-61) and this would seem the more likely, based on the currently available evidence.

- 5.2.7 The pattern of field and other boundaries, as depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1852 map, may provide further clues as to the extent of the Hospital's Beningbrough estate. The curving alignment of Hall Lane / Beningbrough Lane appears to be a significant pre-enclosure boundary, as does the alignment of the Wadeland Dike. Perhaps the former represents the southern edge of their holding, which then turns south-east to encompass "Coney Garth", "Nut Close" and "Ferry Ings" (the "Nidderminae"?). The northern boundary might have run around Cote (Court) House and the adjacent woodland (now called Court House Springs), to return to the south along the later Park Walk, Larch Walk and The Avenue, or alternatively it could have continued west along the Newton / Beningbrough township boundary (NTSMR 34064) as far as the river; the latter might more likely, particularly as it is recorded that the Hospital held all the land in the manor in the late 14th century (Morewood 1968a, 162). The deer park was therefore taken out of the north-east corner of this larger holding. There is also a well defined area of several fields immediately around Beningbrough Grange, marked by Wadeland Dike to the west, which could represent a further sub-division of the demesne, while the north-south banks noted in The Avenue (NTSMR 34093) could either be another internal sub-division of the holding. The curving alignment of a boundary to the south and west of the Hall (NTSMR 34086) dividing the later Ferry Ings and Well Garth may also be associated with the area of the "Nidderminae".
- 5.2.8 However, it should be stressed that, at this stage, the above is only supposition, and further field-name evidence and documentary research may reveal additional information. There are also other landowners to consider, for example, as noted above, the Benedictine convent at Nun Monkton also held land in Beningbrough, as may have St Mary's Abbey. The latter is also thought to have had their own deer park in Beningbrough, although it is more likely to have been located to the east of the village, nearer to their wood in Overton (Bulmer 1890). It is also important to appreciate that the landholdings of these organisations would not have remained static throughout the medieval period; for example, a late 14th century document notes that William Beningburgh had recovered some of his land from St Mary's, which he subsequently gave to St Leonard's (see Appendix 1/1), while the significant reduction in the recorded acreage attached to St Leonard's grange between 1287 (560 acres) and c.1540 (320 acres) might be explained by the financial mismanagement of the master, William de Botheby in the 14th century.
- 5.2.9 Some areas of ridge and furrow cultivation can be seen to the north of the Hall (eg NTSMRs 34062, 34063, 34072 and 34109), although they are much denuded. However, aerial photographs show that it was once much more extensive than it is now, for example in the area of Nut Flat and Coney Garth, which is now under arable / maize cultivation. The ridge and furrow is also likely to have extended across Ferry Ings but little now remains (e.g. NTSMR 34083), it having either been landscaped away since c.1716 or gradually infilled / buried by silting from river flooding. As noted above, some of the lines of trees depicted on the maps of 1841 and 1852 in the parkland to the north of the Hall may also represent former field boundaries which were swept away when the park was created.

- 5.2.10 Some of the platforms within the ridge and furrow could be the location of agricultural structures, probably contemporary with the field systems and thus possibly medieval in origin, for example those located next to a headland to the north of the Hall (NTSMR 34073) and/or those to the north-east and south-west of the Hall (NTSMRs 34124 and 34125).
- 5.2.11 The cartographic evidence would appear to suggest that the majority of the ponds within the Beningbrough Hall estate are not medieval in date (see below). The only exception might be those in Pike Pond Plantation (NTSMR 30849), which are depicted as three rectangular ponds in 1841 and in 1852. However, these earthworks have been severely re-modelled, and it is now impossible to determine their original arrangement and inter-relationships.

Late 16th – early 18th centuries

- 5.2.12 An area to the south-east of the existing Hall has been proposed as both the site of an earlier manor house or monastic grange (see above) and the Bouchier's first house at Beningbrough which was constructed during the late 16th century (NTSMR 30842). The site is depicted as a sub-rectangular platform adjacent to the ha-ha on the 1852 Ordnance Survey map, labelled "Site of Old Hall or Manor House", although later editions show the site slightly to the south. A large sub-rectangular platform, measuring c.36m long (east-west) by c.20m wide (north-south) and containing other slight earthworks, now marks the spot and a partially exposed section of wall composed of late 16th or early 17th century brick is visible eroding out of the south side of the ha-ha bank. The site was subject to a small excavation in 1984 which revealed a small brickwork structure, but the area examined was too small for any positive identification (Cross 1984). There was also an earlier amateur excavation in the 1920s, but no details relating to this work have been located (John Thallon, *pers. comm.*). Sir Barrington Bouchier's inventory of 1695 notes that the house was a substantial structure of at least nine rooms on the ground floor and some 18 rooms overall (Taylor 1988, 142-146).
- 5.2.13 There are, however, previously unrecognised earthworks (NTSMR 34091) to the south of this large platform, comprising several shallow sub-rectangular depressions and a larger platform. The exact relationship between these features and the presumed manor house site just to the north is unclear, as the strip of land in between has been heavily damaged by the movement of farm vehicles and cattle poaching. Although they might represent some of the outbuildings described in the 1695 inventory, their low-lying location between the main platform and the adjacent river suggests that they are more likely to be garden features.
- 5.2.14 Both Simon (1992, 86) and Currie (1992) suggest that some of the rectangular ponds shown on, for example, the 1841 map are also likely to date from this period, for example the Carp Pond (NTSMR 30847), which might have been a north-south aligned ornamental canal aligned on the Elizabethan house, and the Tench Pond (NTSMR 30848) which is at right angles to it. There is, as yet, no supporting documentation for this assumption but the cartographic evidence implies that the Tench Pond originally extended for some distance further to the east. It is also interesting to note that the "fine channel" as depicted by Buck in c.1720 (NTSMR 30850) is aligned on the potential garden earthworks (NTSMR 34091) to the south of the main platform, and so this might represent another linear formal canal which was subsequently re-used by the later Hall (see below). Perhaps the boundary (NTSMR 34086) to the south, which is on a similar alignment to the "fine channel" and which might also be depicted by Buck as railings or a fence, could also be associated with this early complex. It goes without saying that further archaeological investigation

would be needed to confirm whether this layout of canals is associated with the Bouchier's house, but if so, the site would be national importance.

- 5.2.15 Apart from these earthworks, little appears to remain of any of the other landscape features or gardens which might have been associated with the Bouchier's house, although the famous squabble between Sir John Bouchier and Sir Thomas Wentworth in 1633 shows that the park was still in use. There is a fleeting reference in 1698 to the third Barrington Bouchier putting in some "delicate cutts and ridings" in the woods at Beningbrough (Taylor 1988, 138), which implies a greater density of planting than is present today, but there is, to date, no other information or even confirmation that these woods lay within the National Trust estate; Overton Wood seems a more likely candidate.
- 5.2.16 In the absence of any evidence to the contrary, it is possible that the large earthwork platform on Bravener Bank (NTSMR 30843), on balance thought to represent a Roman villa, might also be the site of the c.1580 Bouchier's house. As noted above, it is not clear from the aerial photographs whether the platform sits on top of the surrounding ridge and furrow, or whether the platform has been created by infilling the furrows, but the soilmarks of the winged structure could be construed as an early post-medieval house. However, the same problems apply – if it is the Bouchier house, it appears to exist in splendid isolation and the balance of the current knowledge implies that this site is an earlier feature.

Early 18th century onwards

- 5.2.17 The present Beningbrough Hall is thought to have been built in the early 18th century; the first documented record of the house is in May 1714 and fitting out was substantially complete by 1716 (Simon 1992, 12-14).
- 5.2.18 Buck's sketch of c.1720 provides an important record of some of the early gardens that were associated with the new Hall, and a combination of aerial photographs, previous observations and the walkover survey carried out by this Historic Landscape Survey shows that they were quite clearly present (NTSMR 30850), as was the "channel" and other features beyond. Gilpin's "before" drawing is good evidence that the channel may have lingered on as the "second sunk fence" into the 1830s (see Appendix 1/6) and, as noted above, this feature may have had earlier origins.
- 5.2.19 Michaels suggests that some of the tree-lined avenues depicted on the later maps (eg. Jefferys 1775; see figure 4; NTSMRs 34097-34099) originated in this period, and an "allee" of oaks in front of the house is mentioned in a letter of 1768. Although Simon (1992, 87) is of the opinion that the gardens as depicted by Buck might have predated the avenues, it is possible that they co-existed for a time. The 1841 and later maps suggest that the avenues running south from the Hall were set to one side and not straight in front as the Jefferys map might be taken to suggest. Perhaps the south-east avenue (NTSMR 34098) shown by Jefferys might have led off from the large pair of gate piers shown on the east side of Buck's parterres. The 1768 letter noted by Simon (1992) is also interesting in that it mentions a menagerie and other features that seem to appear nowhere else in the documentary record (as yet). The ha-ha (NTSMR 31358) appears to have been created in the late 18th century, but on a straighter alignment to the present, which was set out between 1893 and 1907.
- 5.2.20 The northern end of the park lay within the township of Newton, and this area was not enclosed until 1815. It is assumed that the park terminated at the township boundary until then, although both Greenwood's 1817 and Rhodes' 1834 maps suggest that the northern edge was a prominent watercourse or drain running parallel to but further to

the south than the township boundary (see figures 5 and 6). Newton Lodge (NTSMR 31363), at the southern end of Newton-on-Ouse village, was built before enclosure in c.1780-90, which may reflect the fact that the enclosure process was a long drawn out affair, and possibly that the Earles had already taken control of this part of Garth Ends Field or were confident of doing so. The lodge may have been built in an attempt to control public access to the Nun Monkton Ferry, which documents show that Giles Earle clearly disagreed with (see Appendix 1/7).

- 5.2.21 It is now accepted that most of the landscape features within the present park (NTSMR 34111) were established by the Earle and Dawnay families in the 19th century, although the detail as to which elements were created by whom remains to be determined; research to date has largely concentrated on the gardens and pleasure grounds around the Hall. Michaels (1986) notes that the peripheral plantation running east from Newton Lodge was planted in c.1800-30, whereas most of the rest probably dates to the 1830s. As noted above, the Avenue and the Larch Walk might well be re-using earlier boundaries, and the eastern approach was the subject of proposals made in c.1827 by William Sawrey Gilpin. The belt plantation which runs around southern half of the park is unusual for the time, as it would normally have been broken to give views across the surrounding landscape. The 1841 map shows tree-planting predominately in an informal parkland style, although there are four parallel rows running west and south from the south-west corner of the Hall which might be remnants of those depicted in 1775 by Jefferys (see figure 7a) (NTSMRs 34097 and 34099). The 1841 map also shows the Hall and kitchen garden to be surrounded by typical Victorian pleasure grounds, together with the walled garden (NTSMR 30845) to the east. The formerly straight eastern approach to the Hall (NTSMR 34129) was also remodelled by this date, to run around the north end of the Carp Pond (NTSMR 34101). The American garden to the east of the walled garden is first depicted on the 1852 map; these were a popular feature of the early-mid 19th century when the craze for collecting and importing American plants and devoting a whole section of the garden to them was at its highest (Simon 1992, 91).
- 5.2.22 Subsequent changes to the gardens after 1891 included adding a southward “bulge” to the ha-ha (NTSMR 31358), the realignment of the northern drives (NTSMR 34102), and replanting of the northern avenue with Broadleaved Lime (NTSMR 34075) (which was itself replanted after 1969). The whole area of the Beningbrough Hall estate is now listed as a Grade II Historic Park and Garden.

5.3 Built Heritage

- 5.3.1 The extensive VBS surveys carried out in 1987-88 have recorded the built heritage of the estate in considerable detail, and there has, on the whole, been generally little rebuilding or alteration since the original period of construction.
- 5.3.2 The Home Farm complex underwent several phases of expansion, but there was one clear significant rebuilding in terms of the height and style of the structures at some point after 1852, which produced an entirely modern agricultural holding for the Downey family. The southern block of buildings in particular grew from a small stable and cart shed (NTSMR 31362), and a barn (NTSMR 31361), to a large complex incorporating buildings with elaborate external brickwork, including panelled pilasters, round-arched windows and oculi. Subsequent developments included the conversion of the some of the buildings to other uses, and the construction of a pair of cottages between 1909 and 1916 (NTSMR 31698). More recent developments include the construction of modern steel-framed sheds to the east of the historic elements (NTSMRs 31701 to 31704), the last (NTSMR 34078) being built in 1998. The farm is presently an intensive dairy operation, and the new sheds

house milking parlours and milk storage tanks. Although many of the historic fixtures and fittings of the older structures have been removed and the internal spaces modernised in line with contemporary practice, the complex still retains its “model farm” appearance and ambiance. The outlying “Horse Surgery” (NTSMR31700) probably started life as a relatively simple stable block with the name reflecting a more modern usage. This structure is an important building visible from the eastern entrance, and it has undergone some recent repairs.

- 5.3.3 Several other of the estate buildings are also associated with this mid 19th century phase of expansion or rebuilding. The water tower (NTSMR 31357) on the east bank of the River Ouse was improved with the installation of a steam engine by 1851, and was significantly heightened sometime before c.1875; it is clear that the castellated tower was designed to be viewed from the other side of the river, but it is virtually invisible from the park and Hall. Unfortunately hardly any trace of the machinery survives in what is now a shell of a building. It is also possible that the brick-built cattle ramps noted in many of the ponds around the estate, most notably the Tench Pond (NTSMR 30848), were also added at this date. Perhaps this reflects a change in the agricultural economy of the park, e.g. a conversion to dairying or beef, and a more intensive exploitation of the park’s grazing resources.
- 5.3.4 Newton Lodge (NTSMR 31363), at the north entrance to the park, was built earlier, in c.1780-90, possibly to the designs of Samuel Wyatt, and the similarity with the lodge at Thirkleby Hall near Thirsk has already been mentioned. The pedimented arched gateway and cast-iron gates create a dramatic entrance to the park. The corresponding lodge at the eastern entrance (Beningbrough Lodge – NTSMR 31684) dates to the early 19th century, although it was extended in the mid 19th century and again more recently. The building currently appears unoccupied and unused, although it is in good condition.
- 5.3.5 The Racquets Court (NTSMR 31694), set within the Home Farm complex, was built in 1901 for a cost of £392. It represents an important survival of its type, reflecting the growth of the game in the 19th century. The building is now used as a store / workshop and none of the original internal fittings remain.
- 5.3.6 The other elements of the built heritage examined by this historic landscape survey, the two skating ponds constructed at the turn of the 20th century, represent an important survival of a lost way of life in a country estate such as Beningbrough. The pond to the south of the Hall (NTSMR 34087) has deteriorated badly so that little of the original construction appears to remain. However, the pond to the north of the Hall (NTSMR 31356) is well preserved, with its concrete lining and evidence for water supply in the form of an iron pipe and drain surviving.

5.4 Field Boundaries and Wall Furniture

- 5.4.1 The majority of the boundaries within the National Trust estate, beyond the immediate confines of the Hall and gardens, have been replaced or renewed with modern post and wire, or post and rail, fencing (see figure 12). A number of electric fences are also used to control stock. Some hedges survive in the area of High Closes, particularly around the east edge of the park, but these are a rarity. However, the earlier maps of the property (e.g. the 1852 map – see figure 8) show that field boundaries were not especially common within the main area of the park.
- 5.4.2 Only a few items of wall furniture were noted, comprising a length of “estate-type” wrought iron fencing to the south-east of the Hall (NTSMR 34080) and two gates

located on the perimeter walk close to Beningbrough Lodge (NTSMRs 34094 and 34095).

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YCA – York City Archives

YML – York Minster Library

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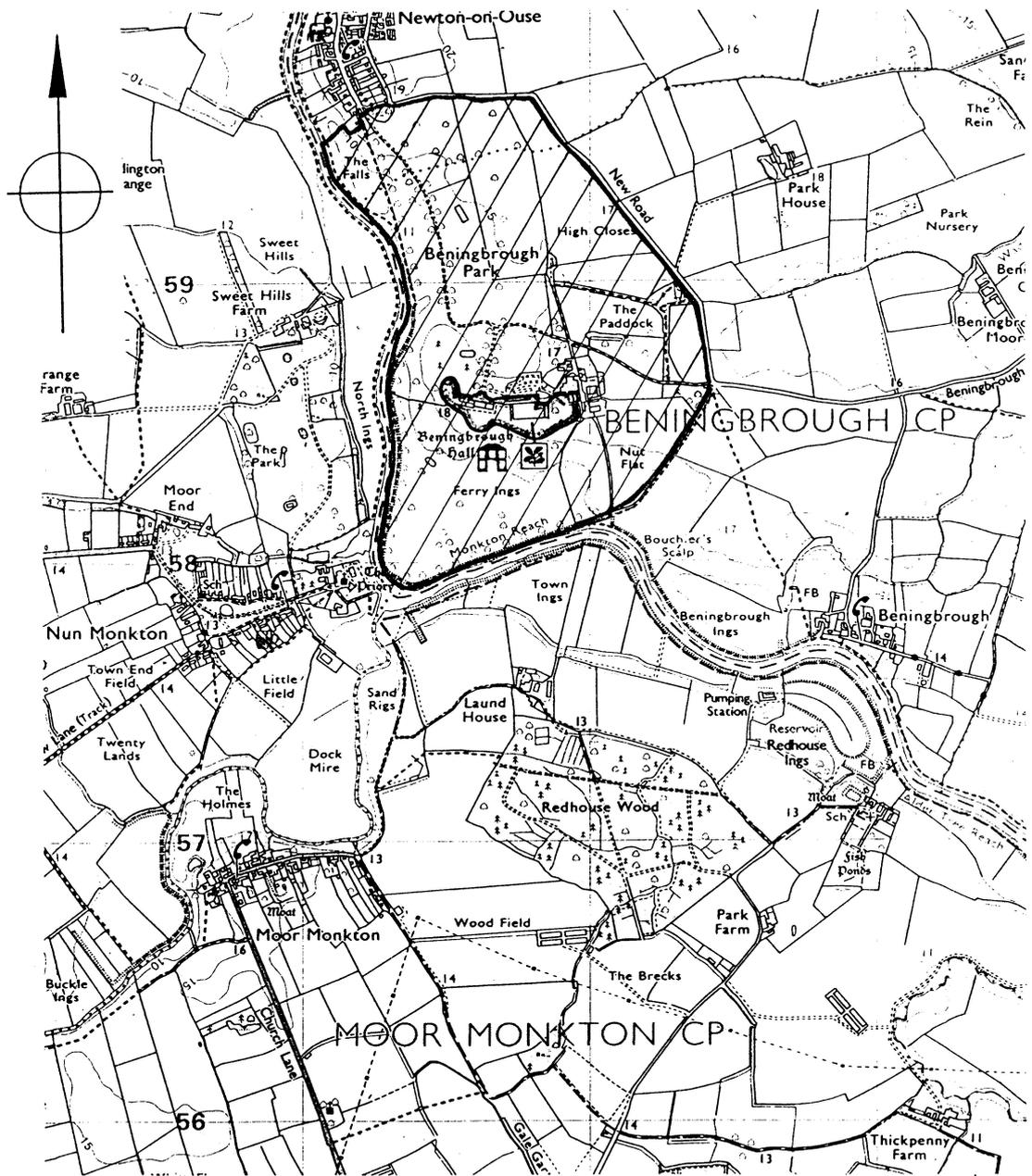
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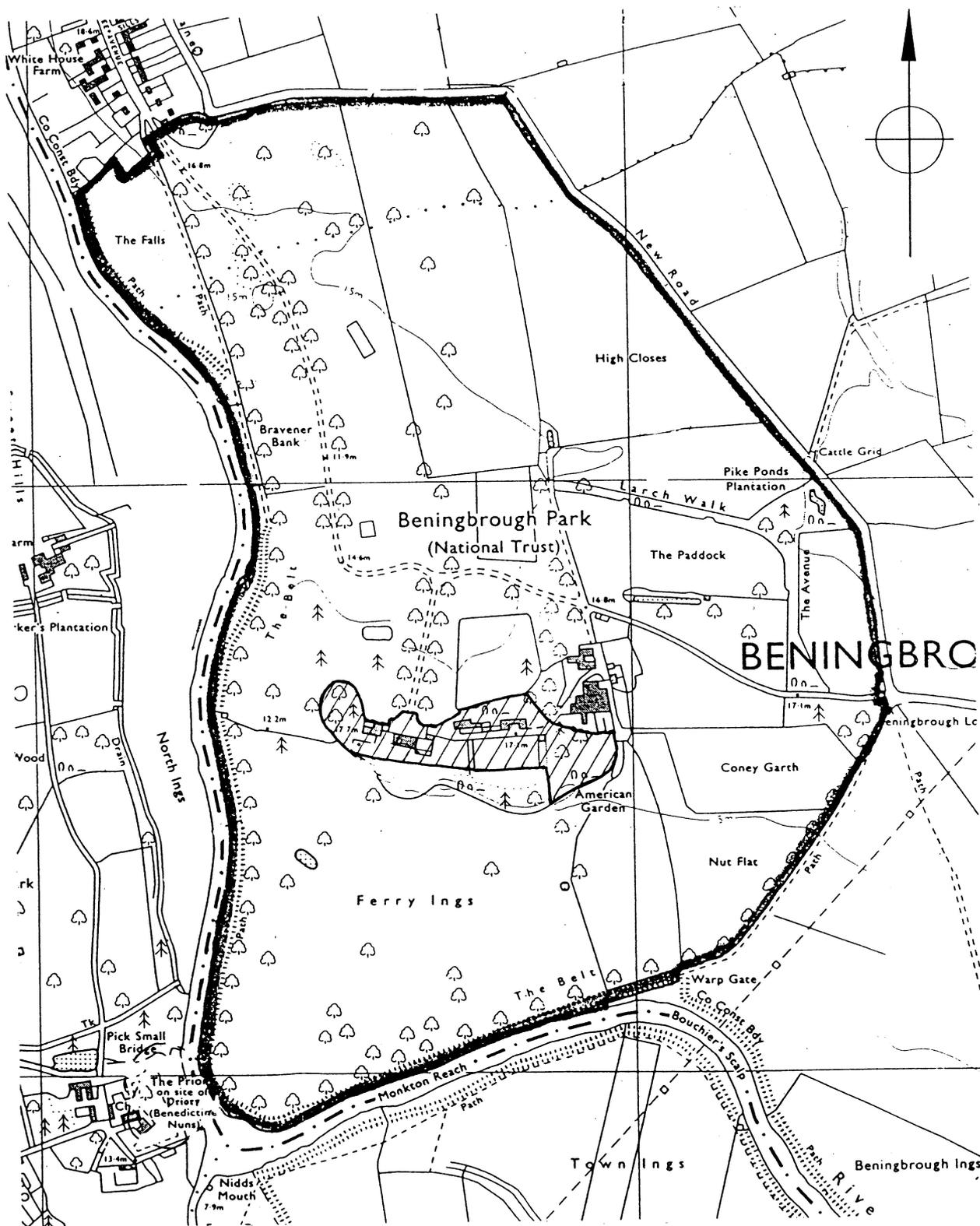
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FIGURES

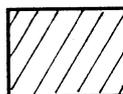


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PROJECT		BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE		GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	1:25,000	DATE	JAN 2005
EDAS		FIGURE	1



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 Area excluded from field survey

PROJECT	
BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE	
AREA OF ESTATE	
SCALE	DATE
1:10,000	JAN 2005
EDAS	FIGURE
	2



Source: Wakefield Historical
Publications 1979, 234-235

PROJECT		BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE		BUCK'S c.1720 SKETCH OF GARDENS	
SCALE	DATE	NTS	JAN 2005
EDAS		FIGURE	3

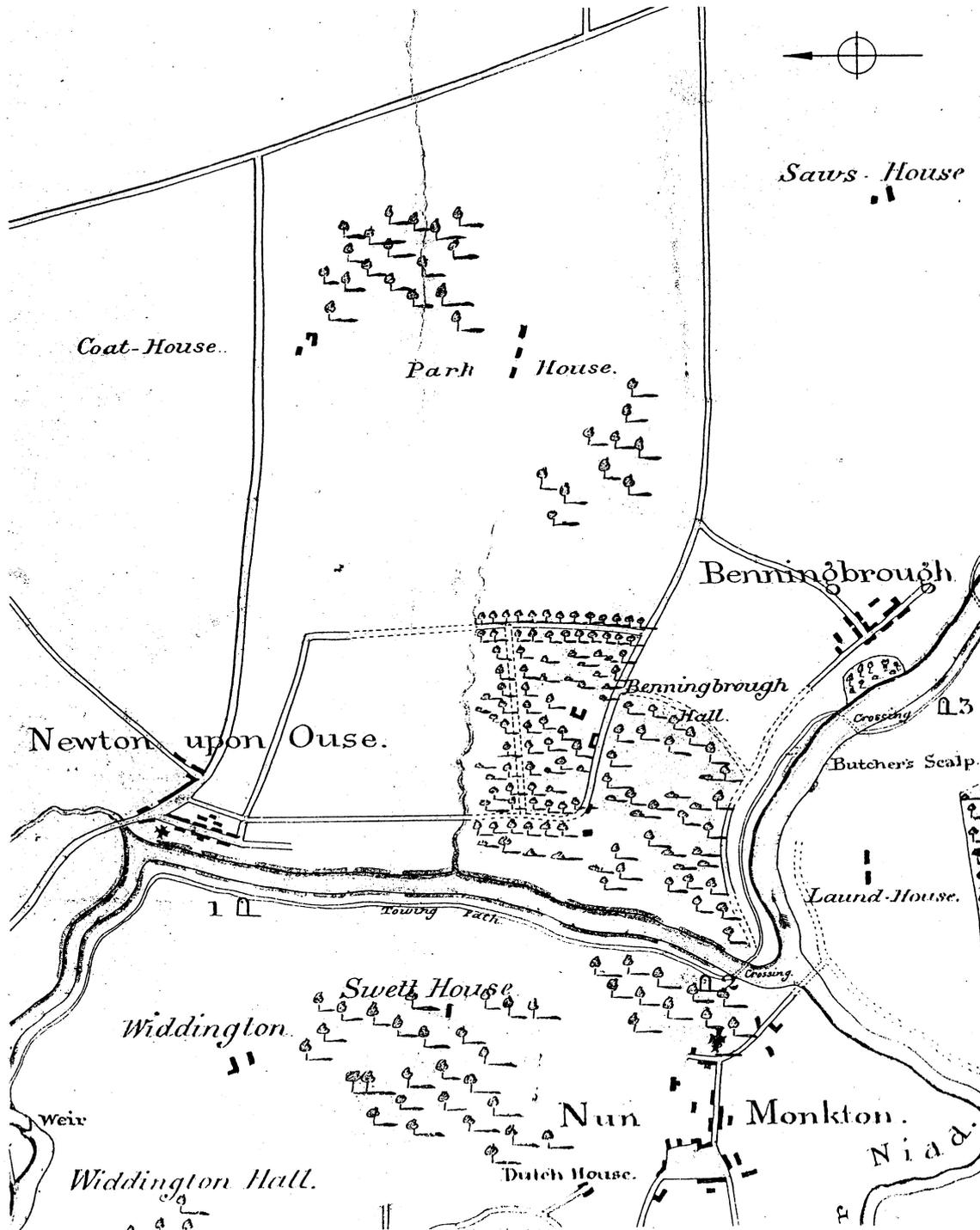


PROJECT		BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE		SECTION OF JEFFERYS' 1775 MAP	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2005
EDAS		FIGURE	4



Source: NYCRO MIC 1919/31-60

PROJECT		BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE		SECTION OF GREENWOOD'S 1817 MAP	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2005
EDAS		FIGURE	5



Source: YCA PH 486/9142 no 23, Acc 380-66)

PROJECT		BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE		SECTION OF RHODES' 1834 MAP	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2005
EDAS		FIGURE	6

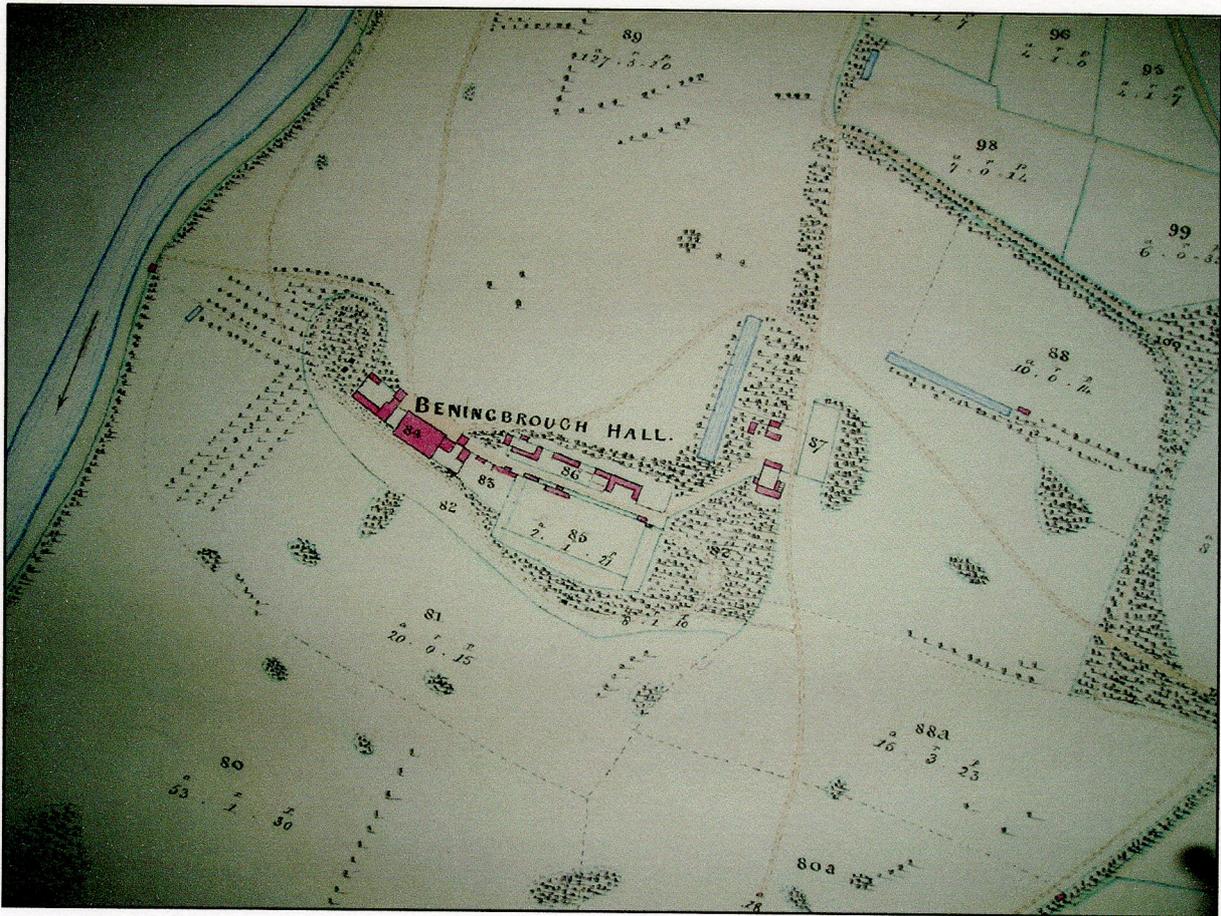


Figure 7a: Section of 1841 Beningbrough map

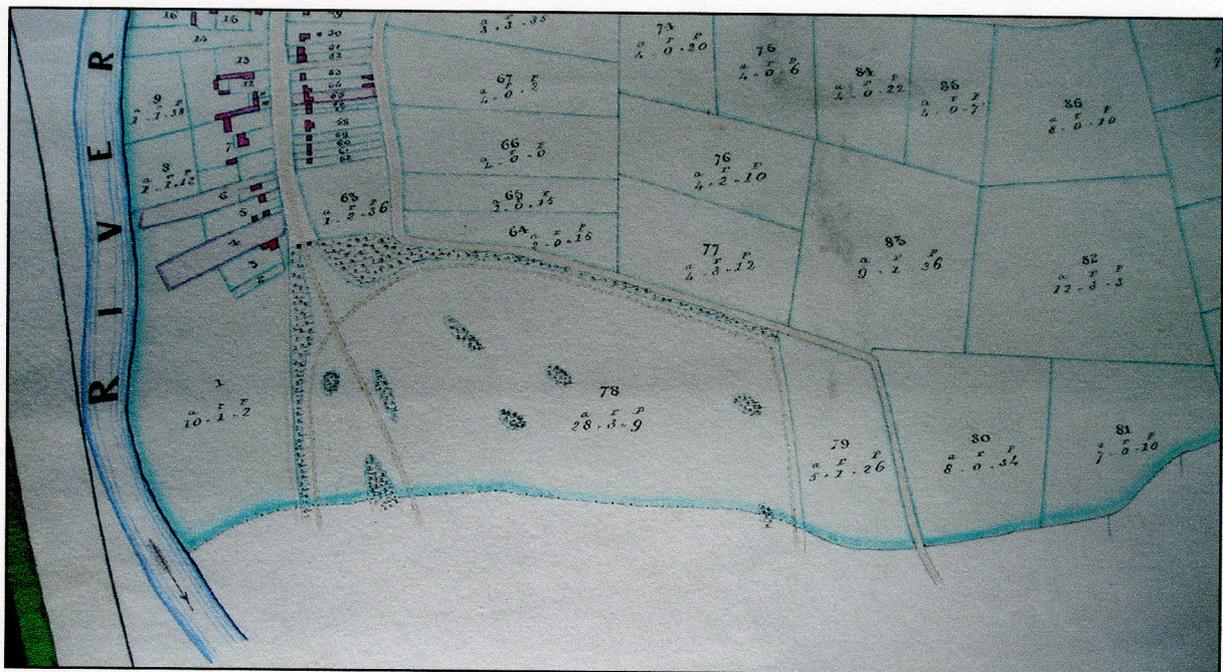


Figure 7b: Section of 1841 Newton map

PROJECT		BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE		SECTION OF ORDNANCE SURVEY 1910 6" MAP (SHEET 156NE)	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2005
	EDAS	FIGURE	9



Newton upon Ouse

Benningbro

BENINGBROUGH
PARK

BENINGBROUGH

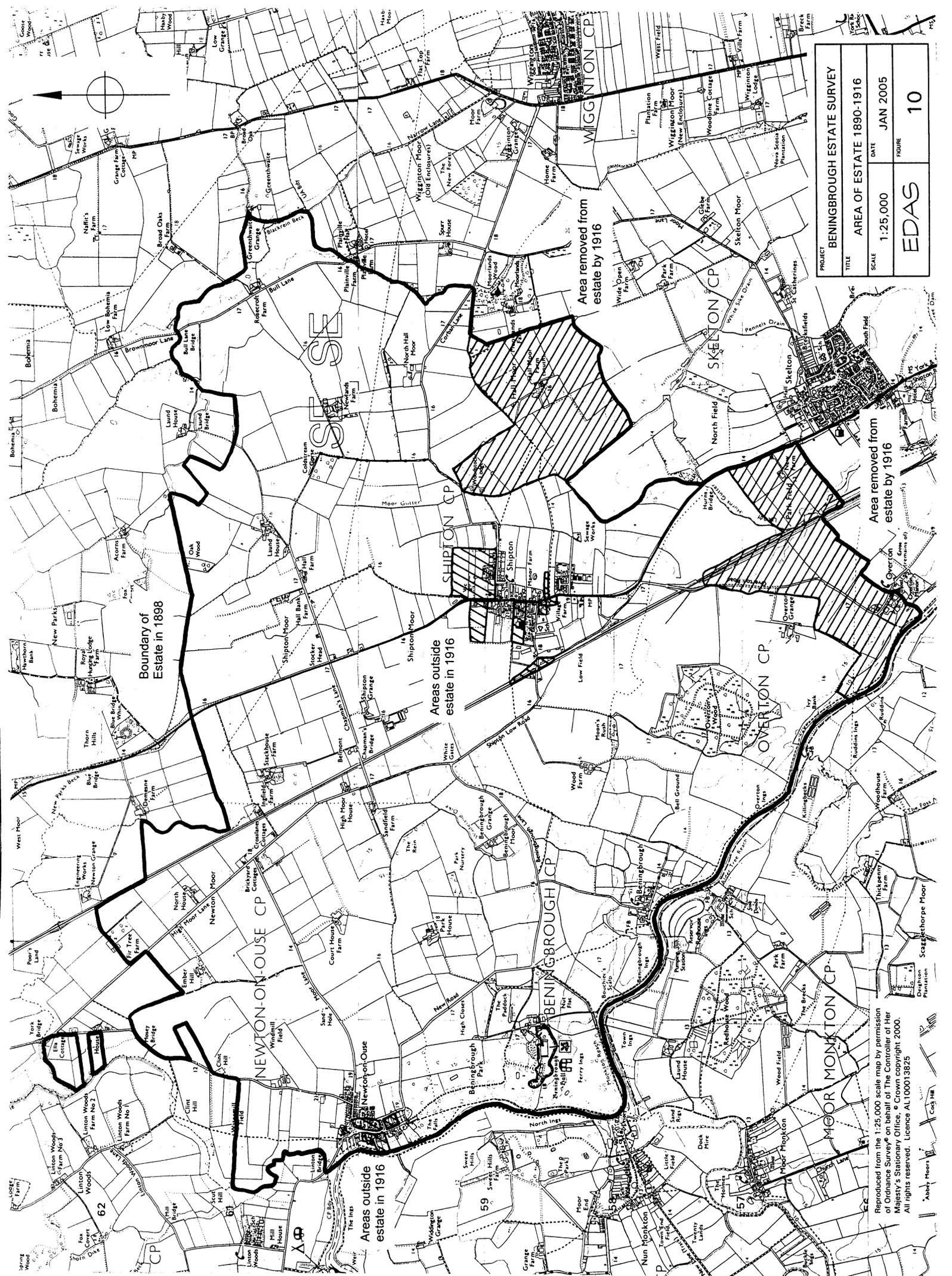
Ferry Ings

Nut Flat

Liab to Floods

Liab to Floods

Court
Wo



PROJECT	BENNINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY
TITLE	AREA OF ESTATE 1890-1916
SCALE	1:25,000
DATE	JAN 2005
FIGURE	10

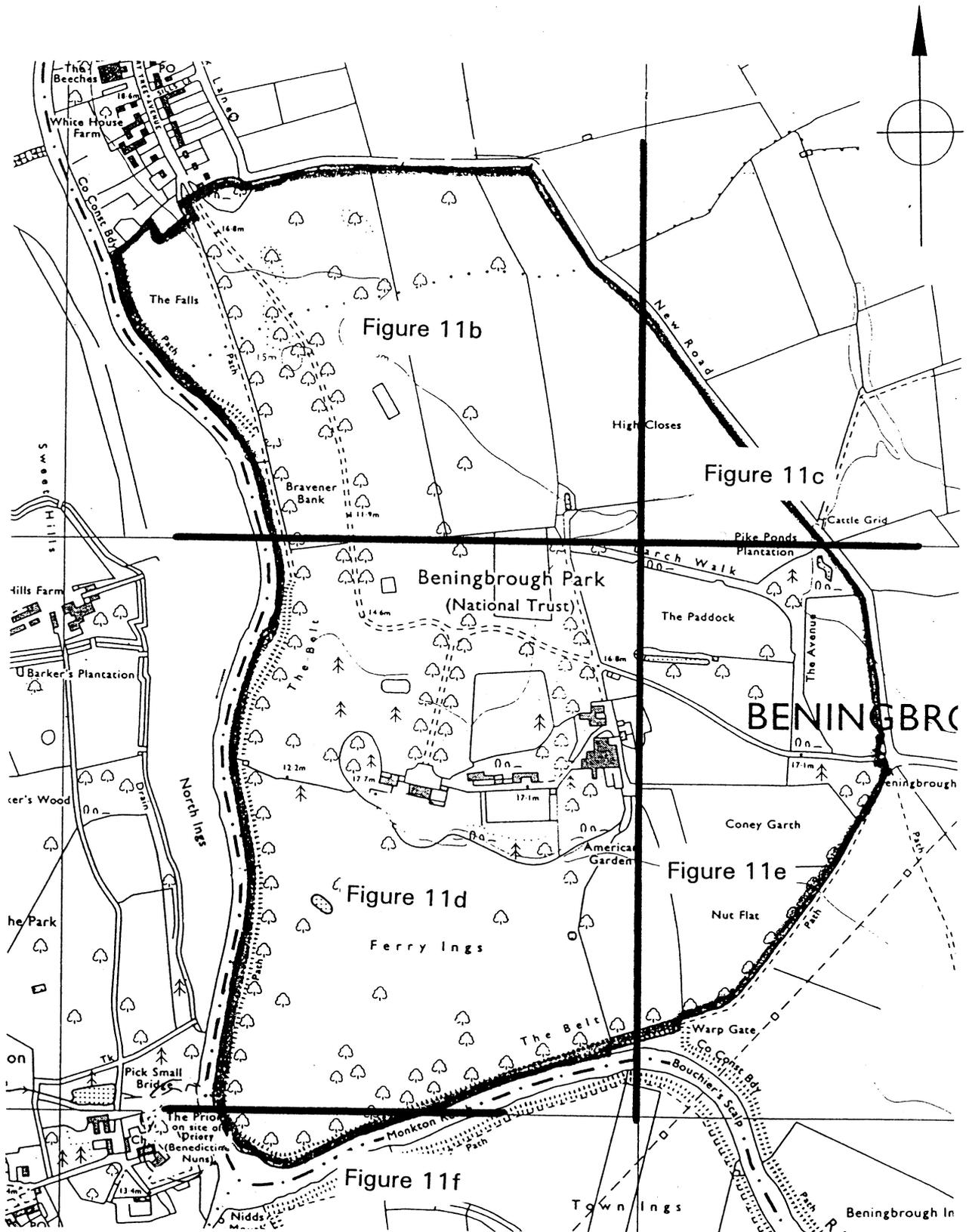
Boundary of Estate in 1898

Areas outside estate in 1916

Area removed from estate by 1916

Area removed from estate by 1916

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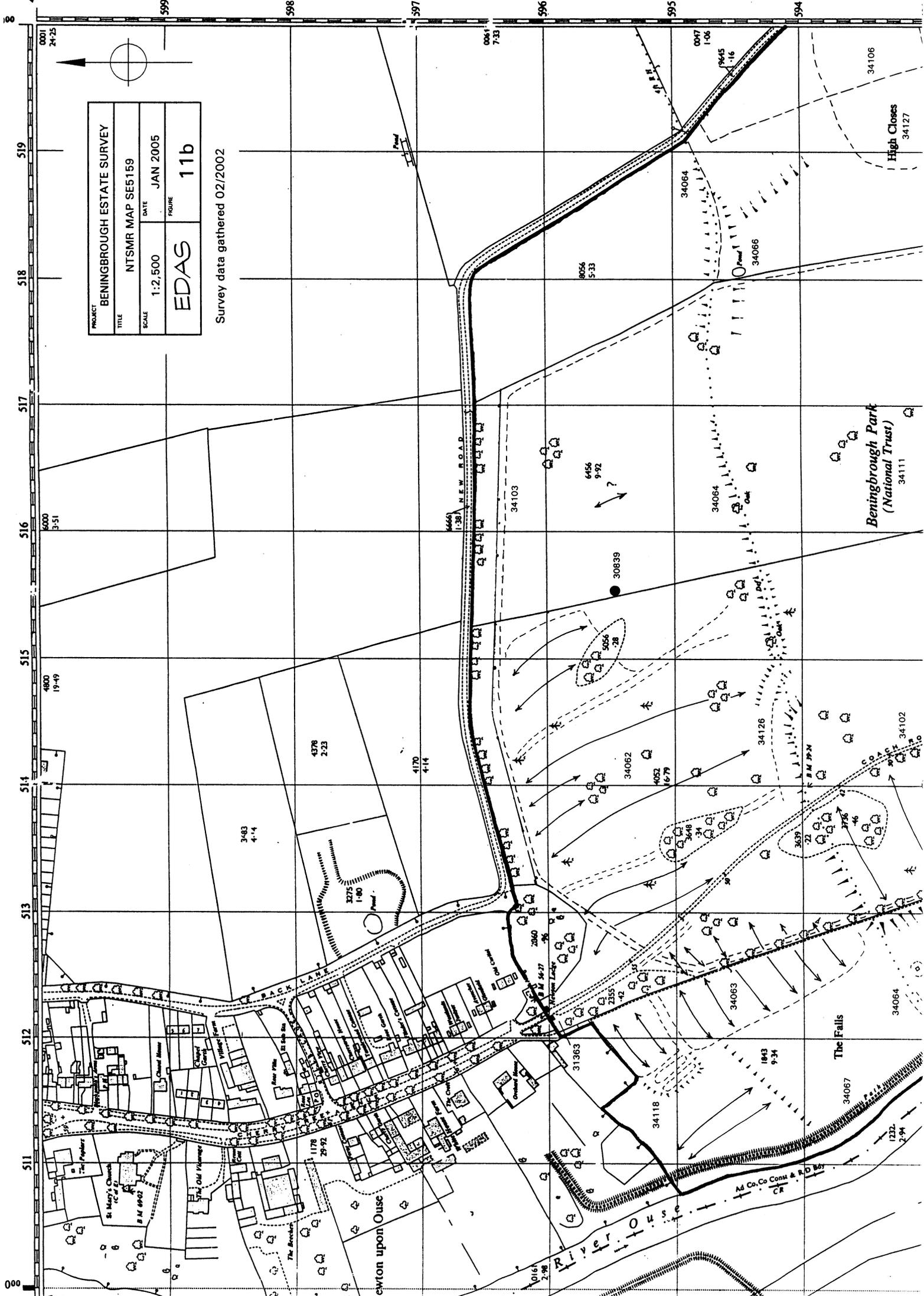


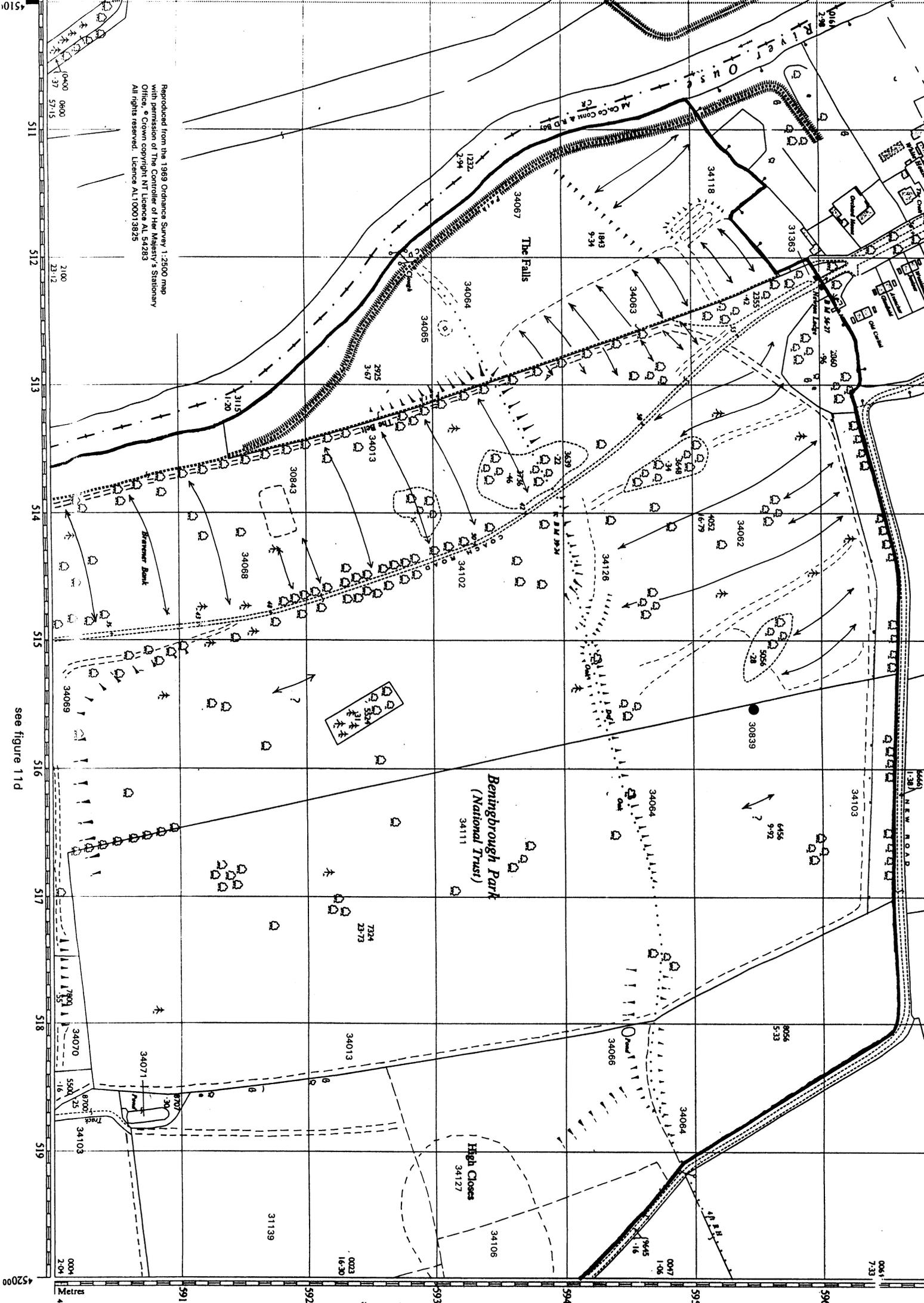
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PROJECT		BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE		KEY TO NTSMR MAPS	
SCALE	1:10,000	DATE	JAN 2005
EDAS		FIGURE	11a

PROJECT	BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY		
TITLE	NTSMR MAP SE5159		
SCALE	1:2,500	DATE	JAN 2005
	EDAS	FIGURE	11b

Survey data gathered 02/2002





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see figure 11D

see figure 11c

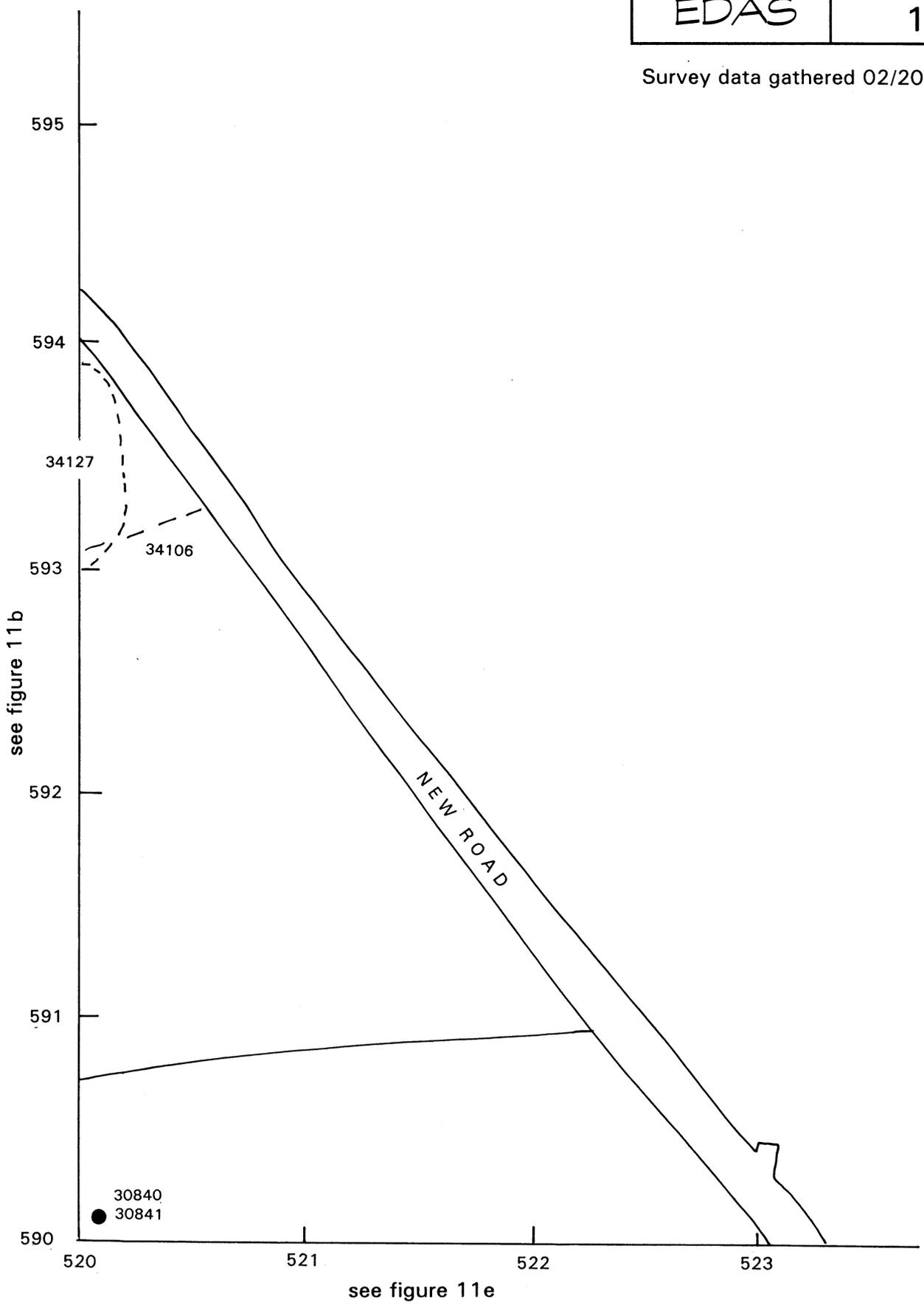
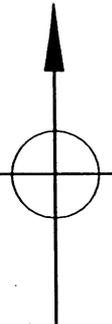
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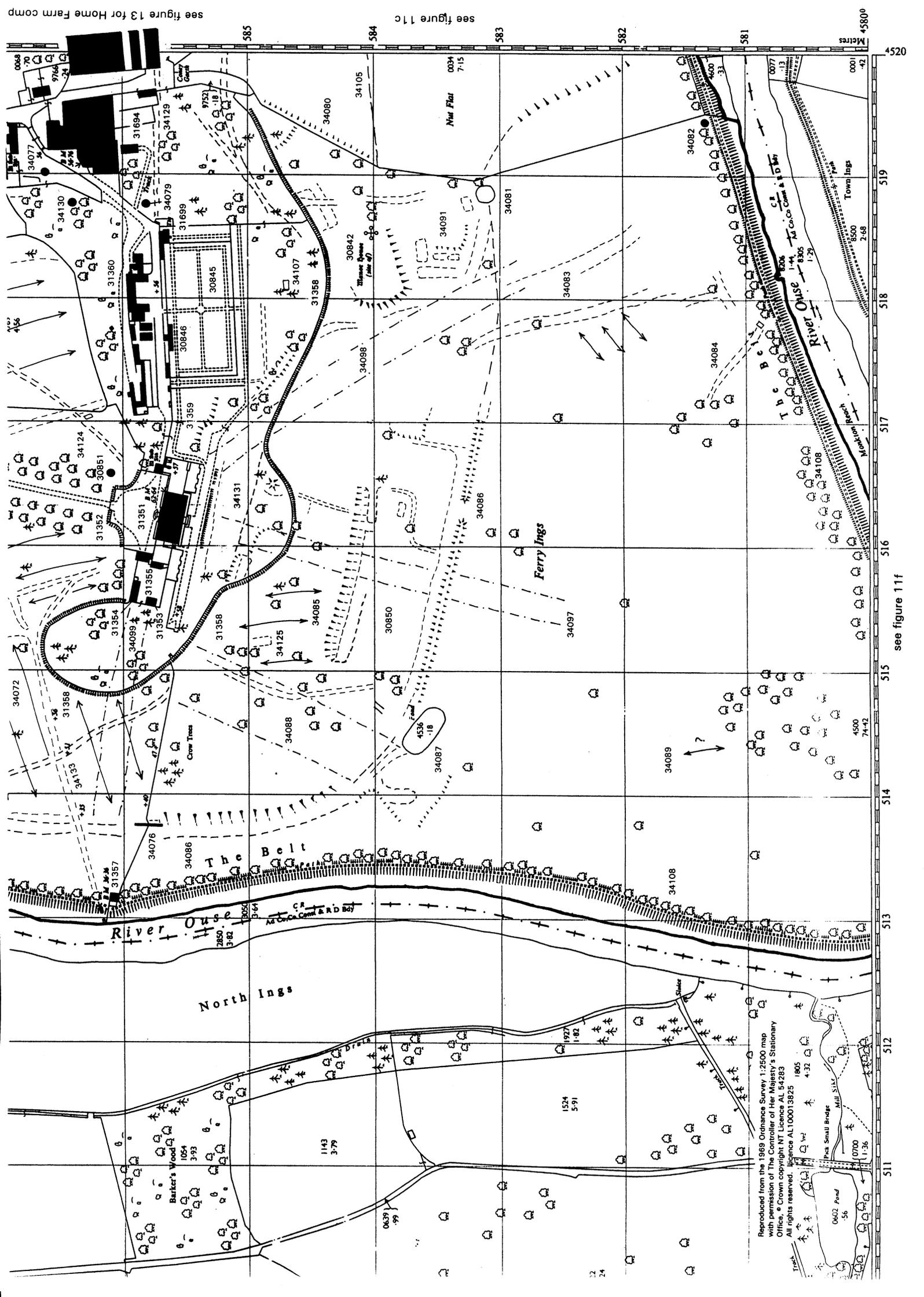
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PROJECT BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE NTSMR MAP SE5259	
SCALE 1:2,500	DATE JAN 2005
EDAS	FIGURE 11c

Survey data gathered 02/2002



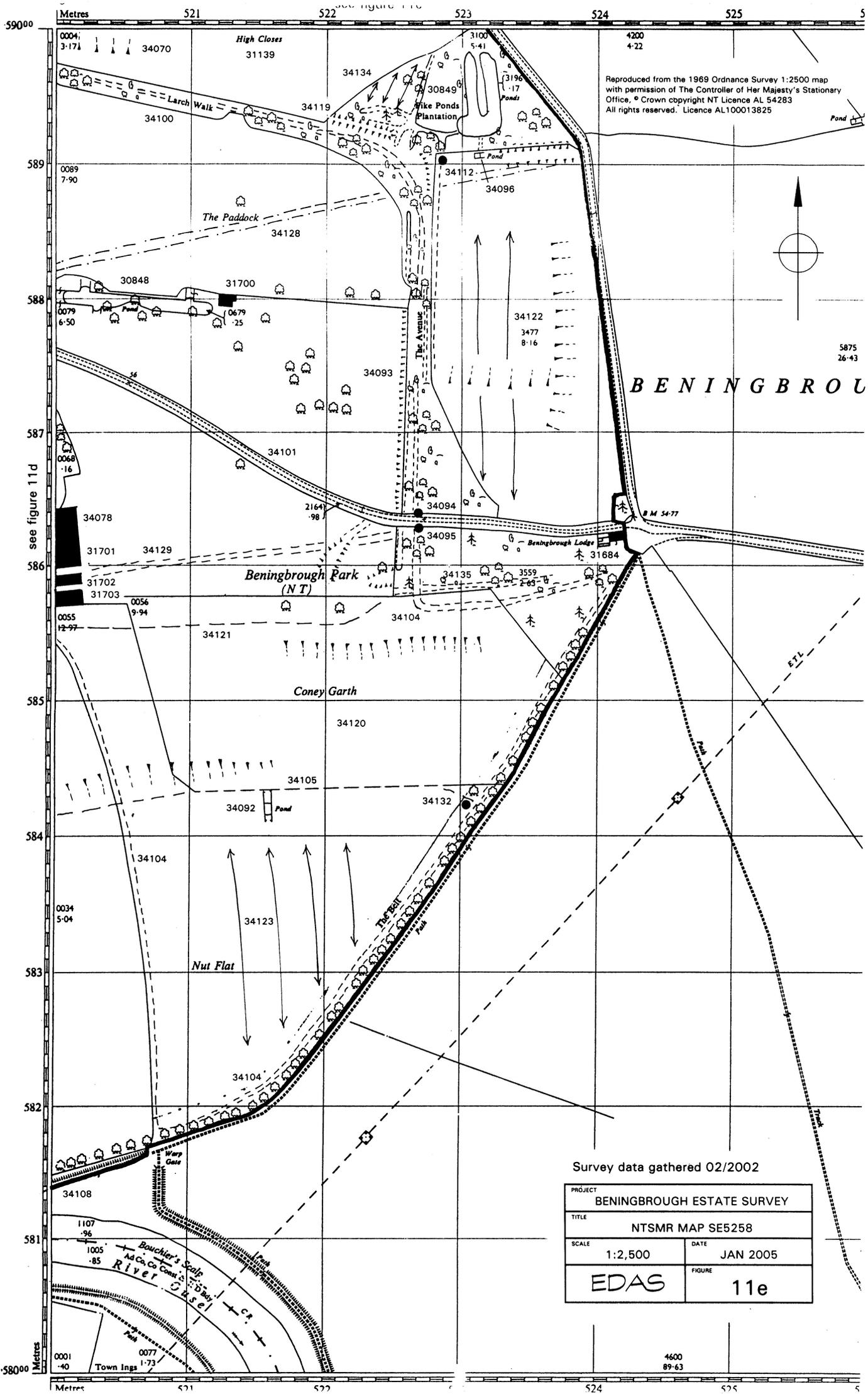


see figure 13 for Home Farm comp

see figure 11c

see figure 11f

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 1905 4-32
 1905 4-32
 0602 Pond 56
 0700 11-36
 Mill Sill
 Post Small Bridge
 1524 5-91
 1927 1-82
 1143 3-79
 0639 9-99
 1054 3-93
 Barker's Wood
 0602 Pond 56
 0700 11-36
 Mill Sill
 Post Small Bridge
 1524 5-91
 1927 1-82
 1143 3-79
 0639 9-99
 1054 3-93
 Barker's Wood



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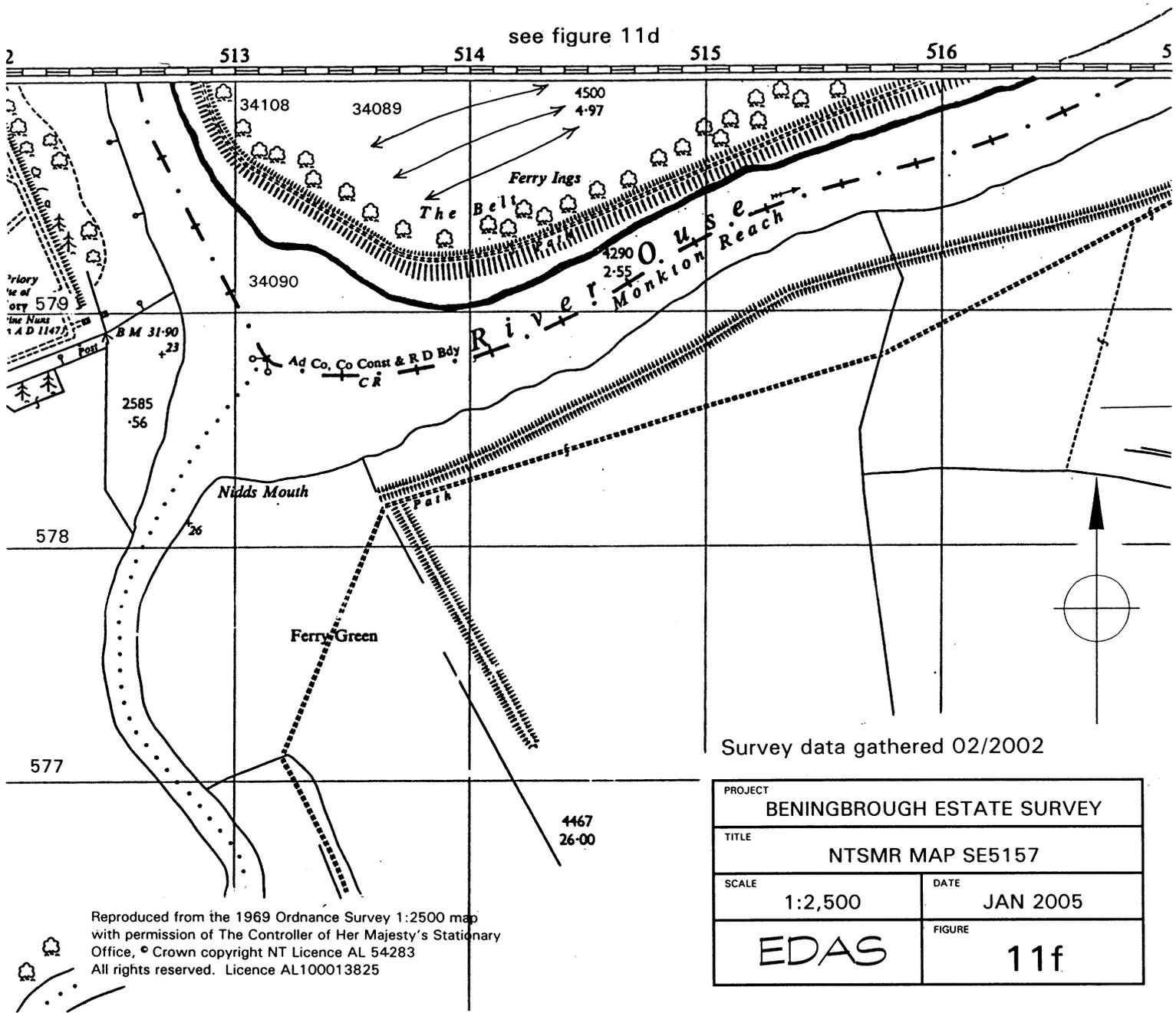
see figure 11d

BENINGBROUGH

Survey data gathered 02/2002

PROJECT BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE NTSMR MAP SE5258	
SCALE 1:2,500	DATE JAN 2005
EDAS	FIGURE 11e

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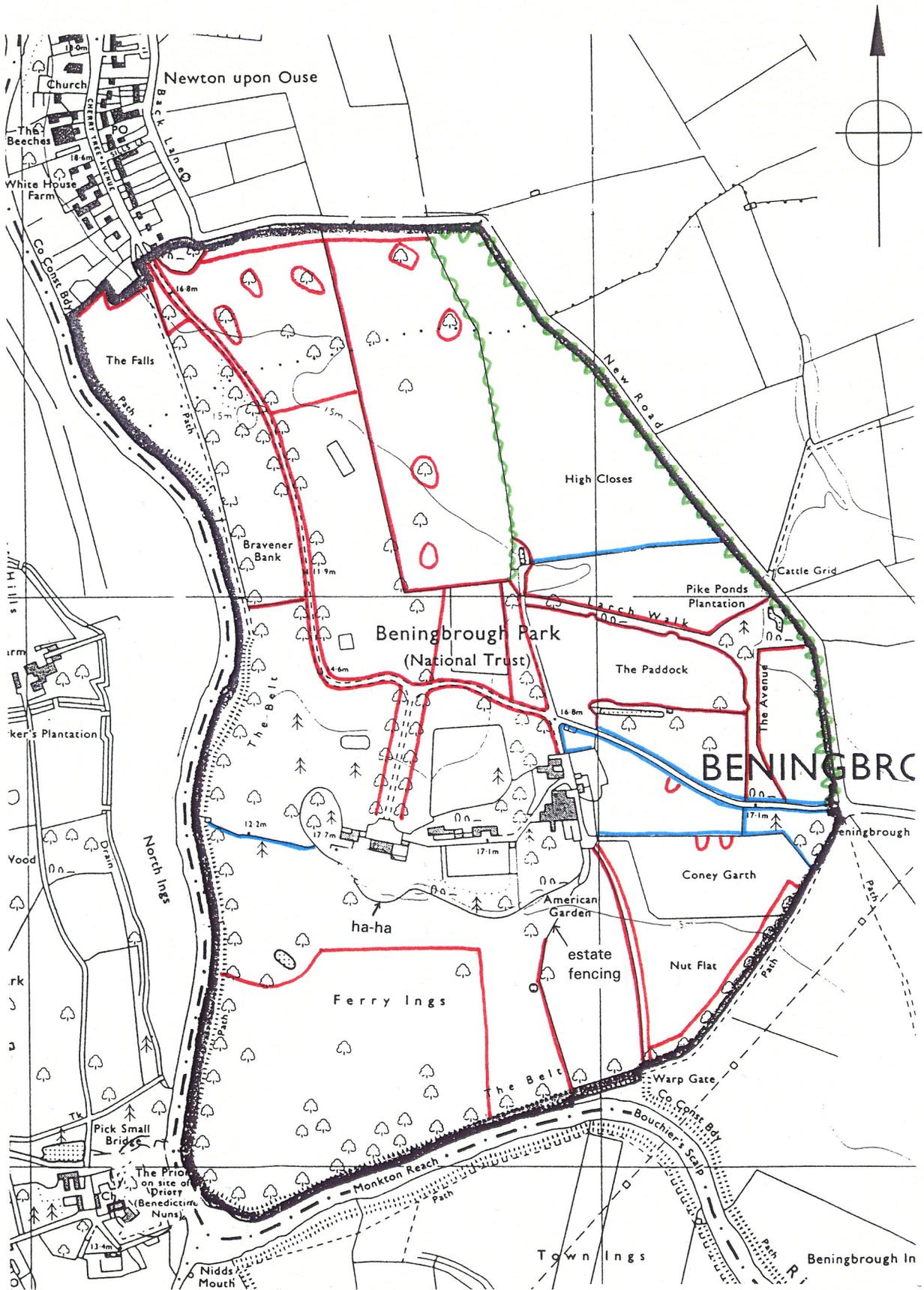


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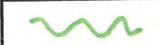
Survey data gathered 02/2002

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EDAS		FIGURE	11f

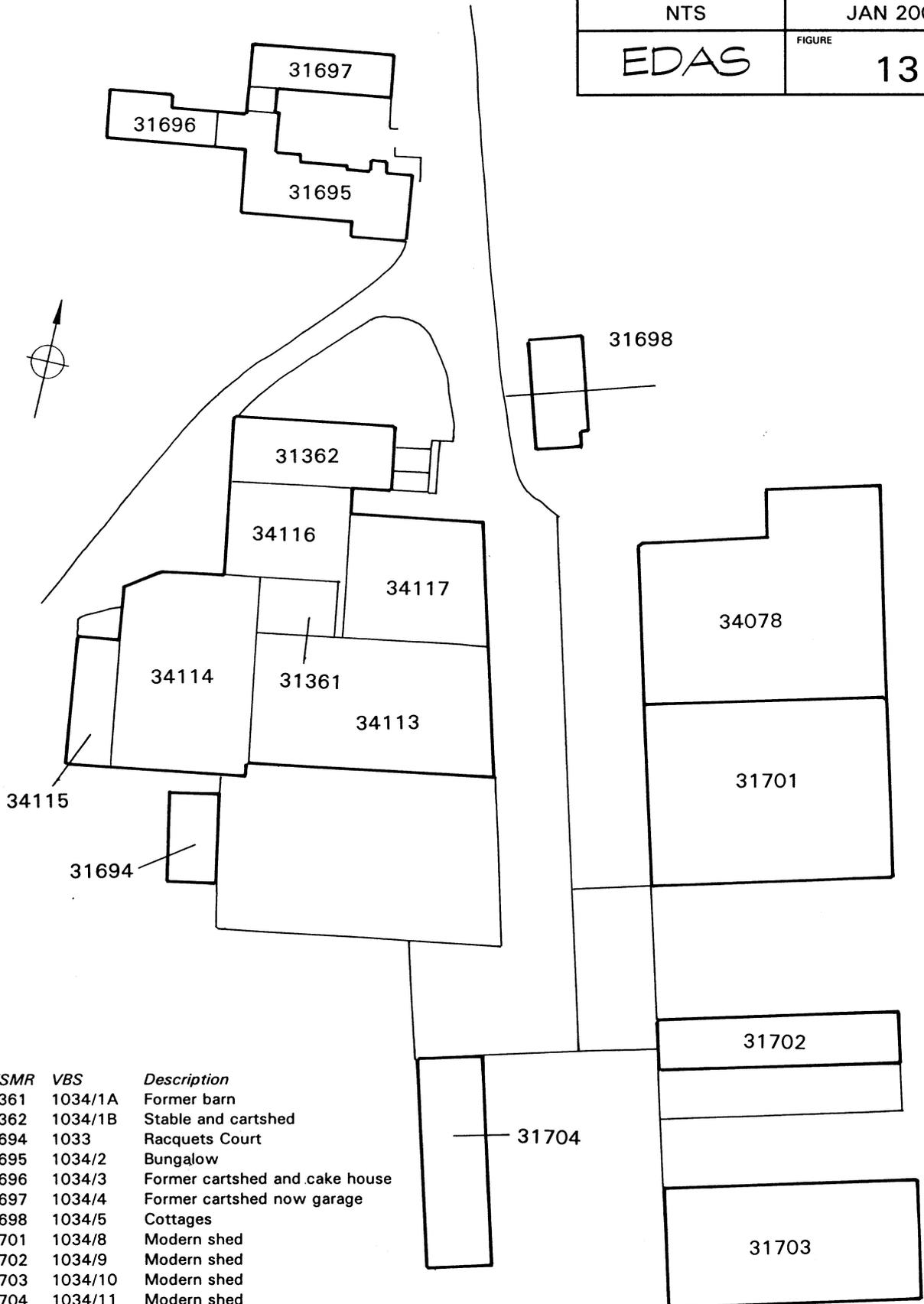


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-  Post and wire fence
-  Post and rail fence
-  Hedge

PROJECT	
BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE	
BOUNDARY INFORMATION	
SCALE	DATE
1:10,000	JAN 2005
EDAS	FIGURE
	12

PROJECT		BENINGBROUGH ESTATE SURVEY	
TITLE		HOME FARM COMPLEX CONCORDANCE	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2005
EDAS		FIGURE	13



NTSMR	VBS	Description
31361	1034/1A	Former barn
31362	1034/1B	Stable and cartshed
31694	1033	Racquets Court
31695	1034/2	Bungalow
31696	1034/3	Former cartshed and cake house
31697	1034/4	Former cartshed now garage
31698	1034/5	Cottages
31701	1034/8	Modern shed
31702	1034/9	Modern shed
31703	1034/10	Modern shed
31704	1034/11	Modern shed
34113	1034/1C	Cow house
34114	1034/1D	Granary / covered foldyard
34115	1034/1E	Cartsheds with granary over
34116	1034/1G	Covered foldyard
34117	1034/1F	Cow house
34078		Modern shed

PLATES



Plate 1: Possible Roman villa site, Bravener Bank, looking west (NTSMR 30843)
(Source: A J Crawshaw, frame 42/9 taken 29/5/85)



Plate 2: Possible Roman villa site, Bravener Bank, looking east (NTSMR 30843)
(Source: A J Crawshaw, frame 42/12 taken 29/5/85)



Plate 3: General view of Beningbrough Hall and Park, looking south
(Source: A J Crawshaw, frame 348/13 taken 10/4/94)



Plate 4: "The Entrance Front of Beningbrough" by Boyuttats & Chapman, 1751



Plate 5: Early 18th century gardens, south of Beningbrough Hall (NTSMR 30850)
(Source: A J Crawshaw, frame 245/30 taken 29/7/90)



Plate 6: View of stock and vehicular erosion, presumed manor house site (NTSMR 30842), looking east



Plate 7: View of the Tench Pond (NTSMR 30848), looking east



Plate 8: North side of the Tench Pond (NTSMR 30848), looking east, showing brick revetments to cattle access ramps



Plate 9: View of west section of ha-ha (NTSMR 31358), looking south-east



Plate 10: View of Home Farm buildings (NTSMR 34114 and 34115), looking south



Plate 11: West side of Skating Pond (NTSMR 31356), looking north



Plate 12: View of Racquets Court (NTSMR 31694), looking north-east



Plate 13: North side of cattle trough at Crow Trees (NTSMR 34076), looking north-east



Plate 14: Gate (NTSMR 34095) on south side of road from Beningbrough Lodge, looking south

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO BENINGBROUGH HALL ESTATE

1. Late 14th century: Confirmation of the Liberties of Hospital of St Leonard (St Peter) at York (Cotton.. M. S. Nero D.iii, f 205, British Library, transcribed by J Thallon)

Inspeximus of Charter of Confirmation, Edward - , of Inspex. Of Edward, of Grant, by Henry Son of William of Beningburgh to God and the poor of the hospital of St Peter, York of land, etc in Beningburgh

Land and meadow previously given to them by my father and myself and the toft where the house of the brothers is situated and in addition 22 acres adjoining their land in Little Lund and from the aforesaid toft as far as the oaks; from the furthest oak as far as the Ouse, with that part I have recovered from the Monastery of St Mary, and half my Mill.

With common of pasture and right of access for their carts to the wood
For the souls of his father and mother and himself etc.

Inspeximus of Gift of William son of Henry de Beningburgh to God and the aforesaid Poor

Toft and Yard held by Richard Galwey

Toft and Croft held by Thomas Bretell

2 Tofts and Crofts which were the (pledge?) of Mathew de Bathenent which Gamel Bond and Absolom hold

Toft and Croft which Anger formerly held, and later Alice, widow

Toft and Croft formerly held by Eoinsiw; later by Ranulf

Toft and Croft held by Alan Wys

A little thicket called Wythes by the road to Newton

Toft and Yard occupied by William le Blunt

A furlong in Langelandes lying between the lands of Arundel and Roger de Barwent.

2 selions running from the Spring to the Wood adjoining the land of Roger de Barwent, Sandlands lying to the East and similarly Wranglands

One furlong in Undewithes

One furlong in Damfurlanges between the lands of Arundel and Roger de Barwent

Also, two bovates in Beningburgh adjoining on the South the bovate of Arundel the Priest in various particles in the fields of Beningburgh.

All my land outside Brianricking to the East

Half an acre of land beside Lidyate with that Land which begins at the cross of the Hospital and continues along the boundary of Newton as far as the end of the ditch and thence as far as the hedge with 3 oaks and continues beside the hedge as far as the other land of the Hospital

Three selions under the hedge with all easements , etc.

Three bovates of land of my demesne in territories of Beningburgh (2 which Will son of Alex holds of the adjoining one) with all appurtenances within and without the vill

Two tofts and two crofts, 1 toft lying between the tofts of William Alby and Robert Alby and another between Ranulfs and Gairebrad and Gairebrad itself; and arable lands in the fields i.e., Biranridinge and Barkestot Headland

1 acre of Land in Langelandes beside the Bridge of the Church next to the Ouse

One acre in Kirkewithes which Robert Galwey holds and Barkestot Headland itself'

2. Valuation made before H de Cressingham and Brother Walter de Brumpton , of the Manor of Beningburg, on Monday the morrow of St Laurence in the 15th year of the reign of King Edward I (1287) (York City Archives Acc.162, transcribed by J Thallon)

John de Beningburg, son of Godewyn, Will de Clifford, Will, son of Henry de Beningburg, Adam de Beninburg in Newton, Eustace of the same, Alan de Westewod, John son of Sessan, Adam son of Will son of Godewyn, John Rotewell, Will, son of Wydon, and Henry son of Rotewell, having been sworn say that the capital messuage in all its issues is worth yearly half a mark. And there are in the demesne 252½ acres of payabale land of which each acre is worth 6d yearly, and the total is £6-6-3.

There are in the same Manor 52½ acres of land which are accustomed to be of the demesne, and which Will Paytewyn [Patewyn] now holds by feoffment from Master Geoffrey de Haspall and the brothers of St Leonard's Hospital. And they return yearly 26s 8d. Total 26s 8d.

There are 81 acres of land which were of the demesne and are not included in the new park of Beningburg. Therefore they are not valued here. And the sum total of payable land in money is £7-12-11.

There are 38 acres of meadow and 3 roods of meadow of the demesne, and each acre is worth 4s yearly. Total £7-15-0.

There are 52 wagon loads of wood and timber in the King's forest which are taken every week for husbot [the right to take wood to make or repair houses] and haybot [right to take wood to make or repair fences] and sometimes more as is fitting, of which each wagon load is worth 4d whereof the yearly total is 17s 4d.

They say also that the pasture in the Kings forest which the brothers of the hospital have and ought to have there is worth 2s yearly. And the pannage [payment made by tenants for right to pasture pigs in lord's woods] of the same there 18d whence the total of both is 3s 6d yearly.

There is a certain park which contains in itself 136 acres of land and wood. And it is worth in underwood [hazels, willows, alders and thorn trees], pannage and pastures 40s – total 40s.

There is a windmill which is worth 10s yearly. Total as appears.

Sum Total of the whole valuation £19-5-5.

Also the 12 jurors say that the garbs [sheaf of wheat or corn] of St Peter collected in various places by the carucate which are collected in the Manor aforesaid are worth yearly by estimation 26s-8d. Total as appears.

Sum Total of both £20-11-9.

Newton. The aforesaid 12 jurors say that in the Manor of Newton is a messuage with 2 oxgangs of land which was purchased of the brothers of the hospital, and besides that, four messuages and 8 oxgangs of land whereof each oxgang contains eight acres which are the essential demesne of the aforesaid town”

3. 1461-62 The latest known surviving accounts of St Leonard's Hospital (Minster Library M.2 (6)d, transcribed by J Thallon)

In payment of 24 men for felling timber and the great oak for firewood in the park there, for about one day with each taking 5d – 10/-

In payment of 7 men knotting timber there, for about one day, with each taking 4d a day – 2/8

In payment of 70 men brittening the wood there for firewood for the kitchen and (?) the stack, for about one day, each taking 4d a day – 23/4

Item paid for stacking 3,300 fagots to be sold in bundles (alternatively – “for the house or hospital”) 5/- 255 ashwood 6d 19.200 fagots for firewood in bundles 4/-, done in the park and closes of Beningbrough this year - £4 15s 9½d

Item paid to Thomas Bishop the elder for floating rafts of timber from Beningbrough to York certain times this year, for each raft 4d - £6 11s 9½d

4. c.1540 survey of St Leonard's Hospital's grange at Beningbrough (PRO E315 401, transcribed by J Thallon)

Beningburgh

The mansion hows, one oxe hows, one stable, one garnar one dove hows & three berrnes, one lytill orchard containing one acre & other lytill parcel of grownde lying about the said howse containing one acre.

Item 3 flattes of arable land lying in the Cote field which is now layd in three fieldes cont 30 acres – 20s

Item 1 lytell close of pasture called the chapel garth otherwise the coney garth – 4s

Item one close of pasture called Nuttflatt cont 20 acres – 20s

Item one close of pasture called Calf Lees cont 15 acres – 15s

Item one close of pasture called Birkers cont 20 acres – 20s

Item one close of pasture called Lumbart Close cont 15 acres – 15s

Item one close of pasture called Knight Field cont 20 acres – 20s

Item one close of pasture called For Parke cont 14 acres – 14s

Item one close of medow called the Helme croft cont 3 acres – 6s

Item one pece of medow called the Holmes cont 3 acres – 6s

Item one parcel of medow called Grange Inge cont 26 acres – 40s

Item one hows called Cote hows upon the forest side with ½ acre – 2s

Item one close adjoining the same full of thornes and bushes 1 acre – 12d

Item one close of pasture called Riddying full of thornes & bushes 6 acres – 5s

Item one close of pasture called New close cont ½ acre – 8d

Item one pece of ground called Sanderson Hagge set with some small okes cont 3 acres – 12d

Item one close called Middle Bush cont 3 acres – 6s 8d

Item common of pasture of pasture in the Forest of Galtres for 300 sheep and 9 cattle – 3s 4d

Item one wood called Beningborough Lunde containing by estimation 140 acres sett with small okes & underwood which is divided into 15 haggas & the wood of every hagg when ther be spryng and felled is worth to be sold 9 the hagg. The herbage whereof is worth by year (2 51?)”

5. c.1540 survey, part of a detailed survey made of woodland under monastic ownership in Yorkshire (PRO E315 401, transcribed by Thallon)

Beningbrough Grange

Beyngbrough Loun Wood contd. 90 acres, thyn set with oke ashe hazel and wythe whereof in waste 4 acres

Sold to Mr Banaster	7 acres one yere growyth
	6 acres 2 yeres growyth
	7 acres 3 yeres growyth
	6 acres 4 yeres growyth
	6 acres 5 yeres growyth
	6 acres 6 yeres growyth
	7 acres 7 yeres growyth
within parish of Newton	6 acres 8 yeres growyth
	6 acres 9 yeres growyth
	8 acres 10 yeres growyth
	7 acres 11 yeres growyth
	8 acres 12 yeres growyth
	7 acres 11 yeres growyth
	8 acres 12 yeres growyth
	6 acres 13 yeres growyth

valued at 20 yrs growth at 6s 8d an acre. And in the same be 3000 okes 300 and 100 years growth tymbre valued at 20d the tree and 700 of 60 and 80 yrs growth valued at 12d the tree and 8000 of 40 and 60 yeres growth valued at 8d and 1200 valued at 4d the tree.

Redyng Wood cont 12 acres wherof in waste 4 acres and 8 acres residue thyn set with oke of 40 yrs valued at 13/4d the acre

Sanderson Hagge cnt 4 acres thyn set with oke of 40 years valued at 16/4d the acre. In hedgerows in myddleclose is one acre thyn set with oke of 20 and 30 yeres valued at 10s. There be growing upon petterhyll 20 okes of 80 yeres valued at 12d the tree.

In Outwood in Newton in the Forest be growing 300 okes timber of 100 yeres valued at 12d the tree. In here be growing the bakkeside of the grange 200 ashes and okes of 60 yeres growth valued at 8d the tree. About Cowleys in the grange be growing 60 okes and ashes timber of 100 yeres valued at 2/8 the acre and 40 resydue of 80 yeres valued at 20d the tree.”

6. Gilpin's description of the Park in the early 19th century (reproduced in Michaels 1986)

York Approach

The York Approach will be taken thro' the (head?) field in which the plantations are formed so as to break the squareness of it and thereby increase its apparent size.

I would remove the stack garth from the yard to the north end; and add the same length on at the south end which will bring it to the gate which leads into the farm buildings. A large plantation marked out will (break?) both the buildings and the stacks from the approach quite sufficiently.

I should remove the hedge at both ends of the stack yard, and at the south end run a rail fence inside some of the trees (as staked out) which will be hidden from the approach road, and let the eye into the wood. Such a fence already exists at the north end.

The sheds & c on the corner will of course be removed, as should also the rails round the pond.

The back road from this approach I should carry thro' the wood yard and along the present path: it will easily be planted out as staked on the open piece of lawn at that entrance.

I should join the shrubbery on the south side of the present road to the trees on the opposite side at the point shown to (foster?): this would block out the present road opening as you come from the Lodge.

Newton Approach

I think upon the whole I should not alter the Entrance Gate as it would narrow the (stream?) against the footpath which is not too deep at present.

It would be desirable when convenient to take in the field on the east of this approach, as such an addition would complete the Park on that side – nothing now marked out at all interferes with this being done in the future. At present I should take a slice off the south and of the field north of the one in question, but not plant it to the bottom but more like the sketch below.

If the pales of the footpath on the swelling ground and at the hollow where the bridge is could be removed, it would be a great improvement, especially if the group of trees could be brought within the fence – might not an iron fence be substituted at this place.

Two groups of trees are marked on the Lawn to break the full view of the house which presents itself as you come thro' the two trees, and so on (?) (?) (?) the Hall door. I think Lime would be the best for there six trees (constituting the two groups) as thin drapery would be particularly useful, and they seem to (?) well with the soil.

In all the plantation wither on this, or the other approach, I would only plant as many forest trees as would conveniently stand together hereafter; and fill up the spaces with undergrowth, as hazle, holly, thorn & c.: by this means the forest trees have room to grow handsomely from the beginning instead of being drawn into poles. When the size admits, Larch and fir may be used as nurses, but should not be finally encouraged, except the scotch fir occasionally.

The forms given to the plantations are more favourable to variety at present than a regular form, and are intended to be broken, thereafter so as to give detached groups occasionally, when the trees shall have attained sufficient growth: with this view it is (?) that the promontories should be planted with choice trees, and not more than can be grown well. Something like the sketch below.

The spaces between the dotted lines are hereafter to be turfed up and thus produce separate groups, advanced in front of the main body of the plantation.

In planting, I would usually put the lighter coloured trees in the front, and the darker in the interior parts, thus giving more apparent depth to the recess.

As the plantations are not intended to be made into open grove hereafter but to remain close wood, I should thicken them with thorn, gorse & c, which would protect them against the cattle when the fence may be removed. Spruce fir cut down to four or five feet high, make very good cover of this kind.

It would much improve the York entrance at the Lodge to plant John's field, or at all events a portion of it accompanying the road.

I conceive great improvements may be made in the Pleasure Ground by opening to some of the yews & c in the interior.

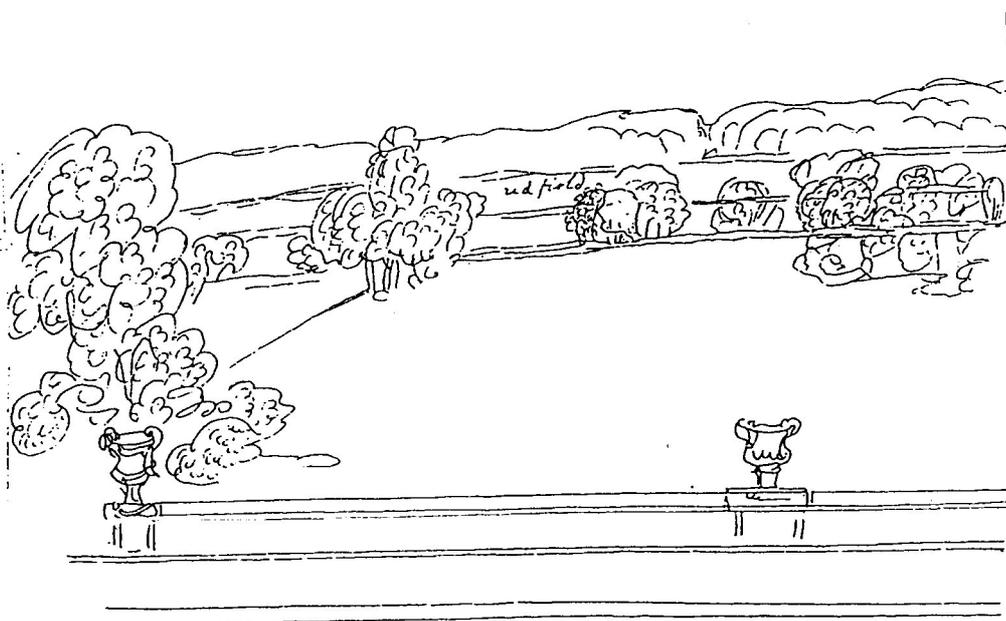
The Sheep Pasture should be planted with shrubs principally, as many large trees would shut out the scenery beyond. A few Cedars of Lebanon would come in well upon some of the projecting points.

The approach roads not to be narrower than they now are. Remove the cradles from the trees in the (seed?) field. All this has been explained to the Gardiner"

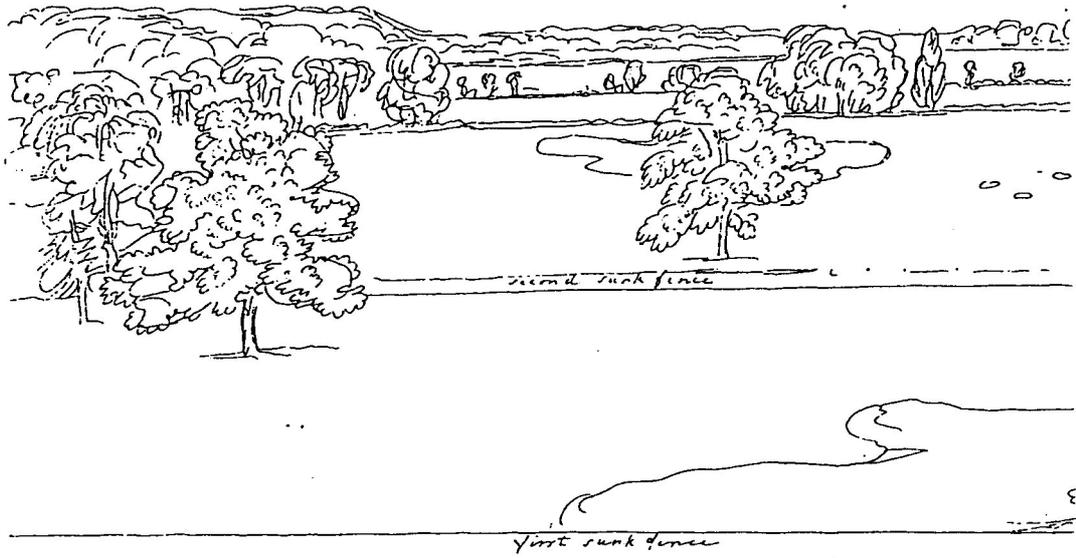
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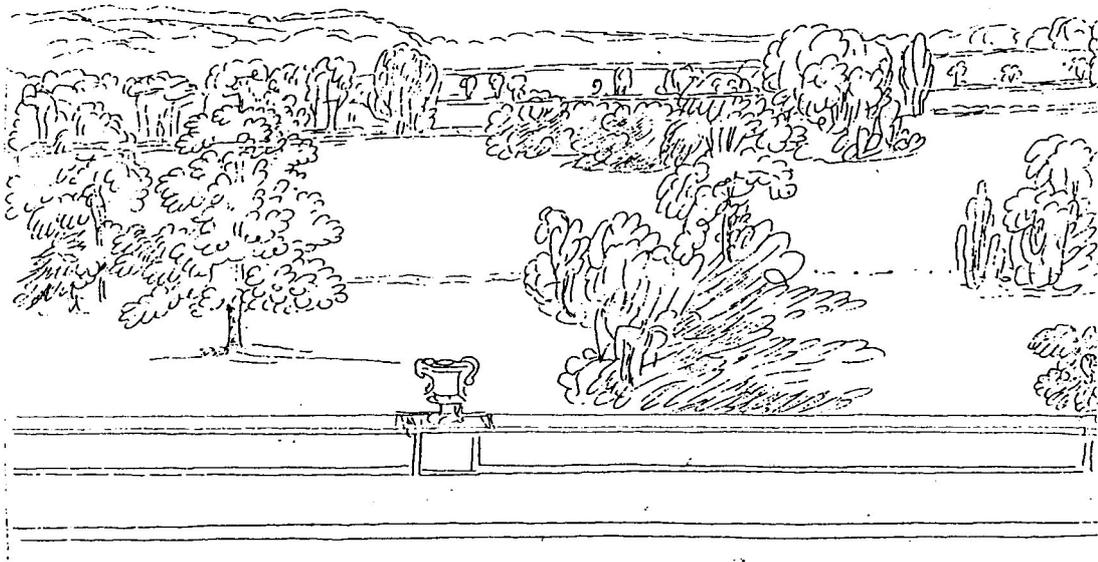
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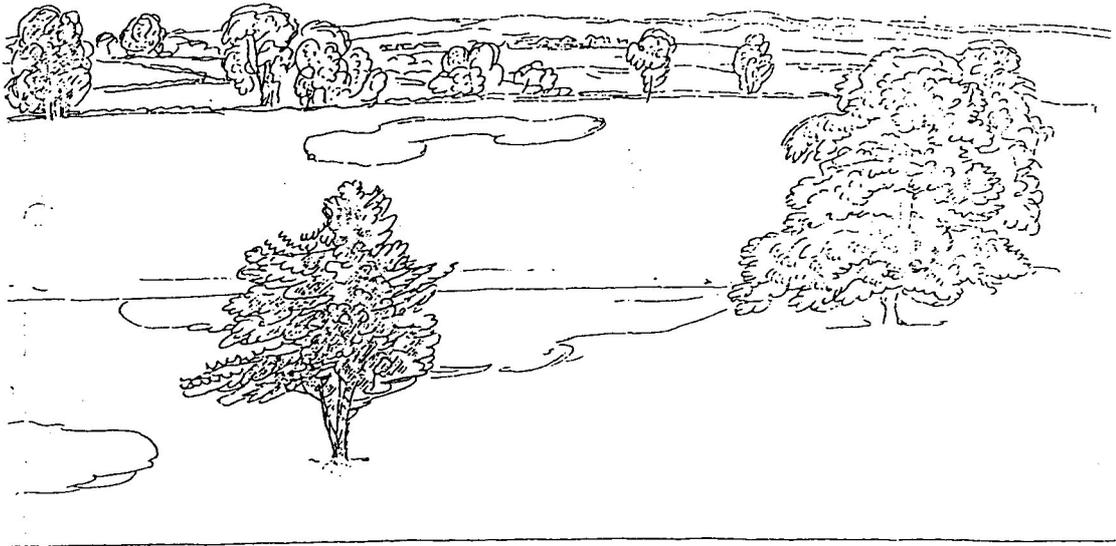
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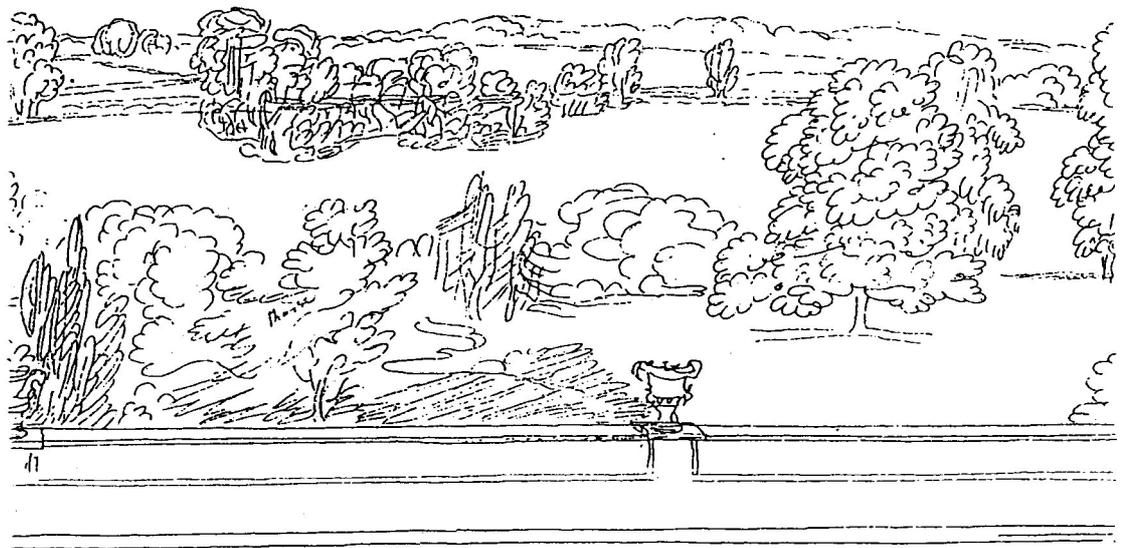
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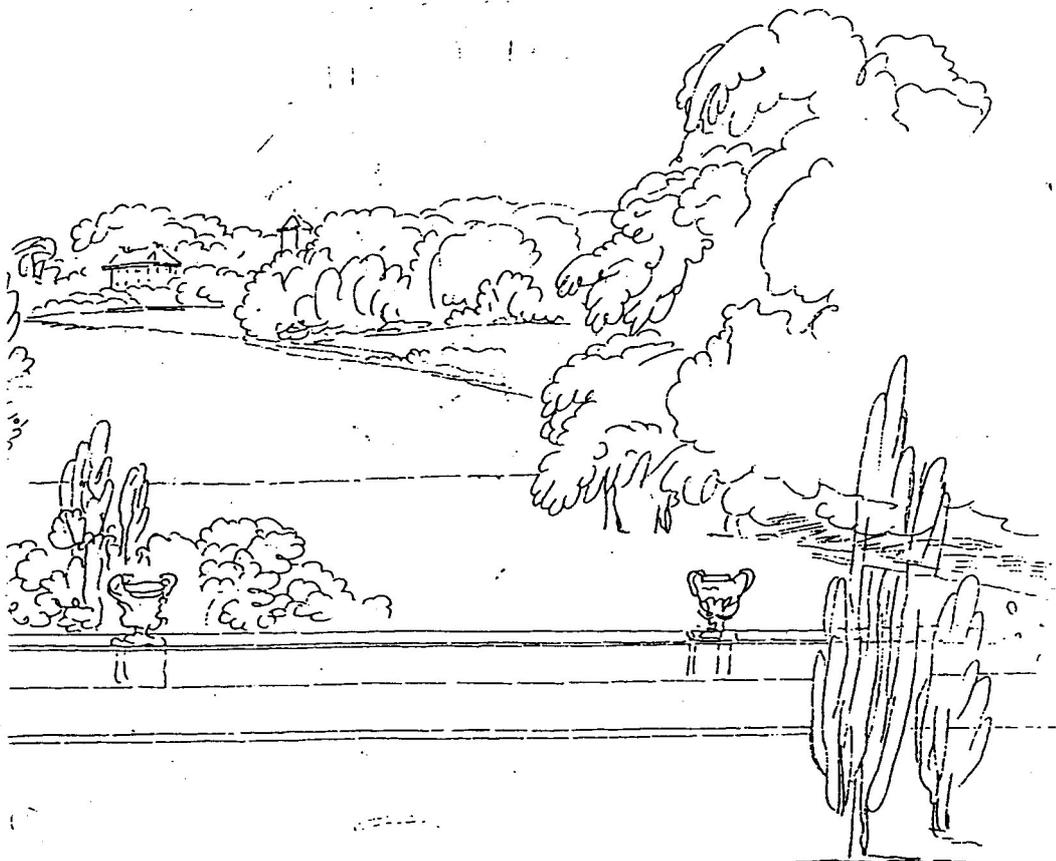
After



Before



After



7. Letters from Giles Earle of Beningbrough Hall to Mr Joseph Munby, Attorney at Law
(York City Archives Munby Papers Accession 54)

Accession 54/120 dated 11th April 1802

“I hereby give you carte-blanche to make any additions or improvements to those directions I have already mentioned, as Mrs Earle and I shall esteem any money well laid out, of which the result shall be neatness or convenience in the roads or grounds contiguous to or leading to Beningbrough Hall, nay pray go a step further, by counter ordering any orders I have given John Bendall, if you think you can either improve or extend them..”

Accession 54/125 dated 13th July 1804

“I sent old William Laycock to be drilled by you – He has received a subpoena in the cause between Mr Crompton, Plaintiff, and other defendants, relative to the right of loading and unloading articles of all kinds at Nun-Monkton Ferry and which comes on at the evening assizes – having established the claim of the publick in this instance, the confederacy, at the head of which Mr Stockdale is the invisible agent, are required to sing “te Deum”, in the assured certainty of rendering the passage through my grounds for carriages of all denominations as often as the turnpike road to London – so you see, between the bridge and the Ferry I am in an ugly predicament”.

Accessions 54/133 dated 14th June 1806

“I send you my account book, to settle at your leisure – we are forming (?) to plunder Mr Hotham of his beautiful china orange tree early in the next week; and are forming more (?) for its safe arrival than Jason did to bring home the golden fleece – at least, I fancy it will set out from York in a boat hired on purpose with Urquhart or one of his aide-de-camps to escort it”.

APPENDIX 2: SIR BARRINGTON BOURCHIER'S INVENTORY OF 1695

A true Inventory off all ye Goods and Chattells of Sr. Barrington Bouchier Knt. late of Beningbrough in ye County of York deceased apprizd by Robert Rhodes, Oswald Buckle, Tho. Hewan, Richard Sharpe ye fourth Day of December 1695

	£ : s : d
In the Drawers in Sr. Barrington's Chamber	
1 Bag in which there was in silver £29 8s 6d & allso 9 Guineas at 22s a piece	39 : 06 : 06
1 Bag in which there was in Silver £65 ... 10 Guineas at 22s a piece	76 : 00 : 00
Money found in his Pocket	01 : 04 : 03
In gold 1 Jacobus 1£ 5s 6d & 2 Carol, 2£ 7s 5 Guineas 3£ 10s and 2 pistolls 1£ 15s	10 : 17 : 06 ¹
in all	
1 Leather Bagg in Bad Money	03 : 15 : 00
In one Bag	32 : 07 : 06
In another Bag	11 : 08 : 06
In another Bag	51 : 00 : 00
In a Net Purse	11 : 10 : 00
In another Net Purse	03 : 04 : 06
In another Net Purse	02 : 14 : 00
In a little Haire Purse	01 : 17 : 06
In another Bag	100 : 00 : 00
In another Bag	30 : 00 : 00
In another Bag	100 : 00 : 00
In another Bag	75 : 00 : 00
In another Bag 55½ Guineas at 22s. a piece	64 : 07 : 00
1 Jacobus 1 £ 5s 6d, 1½ Carol 11s 9d	01 : 17 : 03
1 new Crowne piece	00 : 05 : 00
In a little Box one pearl Necklace and allso 1 Diamond Ring	05 : 00 : 00
In a green Purse 29½ Guineas	32 : 09 : 00
and 1 Pistoll	00 : 17 : 06
In a Little speckled Purse 12 Carol 14£ 2s, 2 jacobus 2£ 11s & 2 Duch pieces 1£	17 : 13 : 00
In ye Green Roame 1 Bed Serv'd with green lined with Green Silk, 8 Chairs covered with ye same, 1 ffeather Bed Bolster and Pillow & 4 Blanketts	18 : 00 : 00
5 pieces of Tapestry Hangings	08 : 00 : 00
One Table Stands and Glass	01 : 00 : 00
2 Window Curtains, FFire Shovell andTongs	00 : 05 : 00
In Mr. Bouchier's Roome One Bed Fedd with white Curtains serv'd with Red, 1 ffeather Bed-Bolster and pillows, An old quilt, 3 Blanketts, 1 green Rug, 2 Chairs A table and Glass	06 : 10 : 00
One cloath Bed with ffeather Bedwith Bolster & pillows, 2 blankets 1 Linnen Quilt, 1 Easy Chair 2 other Chaires and 5 Stools	07 : 00 : 00
One Black Glass, Table and Stands	00 : 13 : 04
In ye Drawing Roome 2 Dutch Chaires	02 : 00 : 00
4 Cain Chaires & Walnut tree table	01 : 04 : 00
One Looking Glass	02 : 00 : 00
In ye Dineing Roome 22 SetworkChairs & 2 old Setwork Squabs	04 : 00 : 00
One pendulum Clock	07 : 10 : 00
Severall Pictures	05 : 00 : 00
2 ovall tables and a Side Board	01 : 00 : 00
One Copper Cistern	01 : 00 : 00
One pair of Tables, 1 Grate and ffender, ffire shovell & Tongs 2 Window Curtains & Rod	01 : 10 : 00
In ye Nursery 1 paragon Bed and Bedstead ffeather Bed & Bolster Rug & 3 Blanketts	03 : 10 : 00
Another ffeather Bed & Bolster Red Rug & 3 Blanketts with a Little ffeather Bed under it One	02 : 00 : 00
Cupboard and a plane Scrutore	00 : 10 : 00
In ye Best Lodging 1 bleu damask Bed with a Case ffeather Bed bolster and pillows, Callico Quilt Linnen Quilt & 7 armed Chairs	40 : 00 : 00

One Olivewood Table Stands and Glass	03 : 00 : 00
One Grate, ffire Shovell Tongs & prod & Window Curtains	01 : 05 : 00
A paper Screen & a Silk Screen	01 : 00 : 00
In Sr. Barrington's Chamber One Cloth Bed & Bedding with a Linen Quilt & 1 Chaire	08 : 00 : 00
2 Chests of Drawers & a Table and Stand	01 : 10 : 00
In ye Closet 1 large Ovall Table	00 : 12 : 00
In ye Dary 30 Bowls, 5 skools 2 milk Tubs, 2 piggins, Cheese-ffattts & other Husslement	00 : 13 : 04 ²
In ye Hall 1 Range & a still	01 : 00 : 00
One Limbeck & a Large Brass pot	01 : 00 : 00
In ye Chamber over ye Stables 2 old Beds	00 : 15 : 00
16 empty Hogsheads	02 : 00 : 00
11 Damask cloathes and 5 dozen and 4 Napkins	07 : 00 : 00
In my Lady's Closet 2 doz. of diper Napkins & 3 Cloths	02 : 00 : 00 ³
7 diper Cloaths & 5 doz. & 4 Napkins	03 : 00 : 00
5 doz: ½ of Huggaback Napkins	01 : 10 : 00
10 Huggaback Cloths	01 : 10 : 00
7 paire of fine Sheets	05 : 08 : 00
4 paire of pillow beers	00 : 04 : 00 ⁴
14 paire of Using Sheets & 2 paire of pillow beers	03 : 10 : 00
11 pairs of Course Sheets for Servants Beds	01 : 02 : 00
One Web of Course Cloath	00: 15 : 00
Seven damaskof diper	02 : 07 : 00(?)
In Scudamores Room 1 Bed-Stead with diet Curtains & feather Bed Bolster 2 Coverletts and a Blankett	02 : 00 : 00
One Bedstead with stripe Curtain 1 feather Bed, 2 bolster a ... Rugg & a Blankett	02 : 10 : 00
One Truckle Bed, 1 Little ffeather Bed 2 ffeather Bolsters, a flock bolster 1 desk and a table	00 : 12 : 06
In Mr. Topham's Chamber 1 ffeather Bed bolster & pillow 1 red rug and a Blankett	01 : 00 : 00
In John Robinson's Chamber 2 ½ headed Bedsteads & bedding	02 : 05 : 00
In ye Maids Chamber 1 Bedsteadwith Red Curtains, ffeather Bed 2 Bolsters 2 Coverletts & 2 Coverletts & 2 Blanketts	01 : 18 : 00
Another Bedstead with weaved Curtains ffeather Bed bolster 2 Coverletts & a Blankett	02 : 00 : 00
One Truckle Bedstead 1 Thin Bed & Coverlett	00 : 10 : 00
In ye 3 Bed Chamber 1 bedstead with green lath Curtains & 2 old feather Beds and bolster 1 Red Rugg 2 Blanketts and 2 pillows	03 : 15 : 00
Another suite of green Curtains 2 old feather Beds 1 quilt Bolster & one Rugg	: :
One draw table 1 green long settle & 3 Chaires	00 : 15 : 00
One spinning wheel	00 : 02 : 00
In Mr. Beaver's Roome 1 Bedstead and Bedding	02 : 00 : 00
One Table and a Glass	00 : 03 : 00
In ye Kitching 19 pewter Dishes	03 : 06 : 08
10 Mazarions	01 : 00 : 00 ⁵
2 py plates & 4 Stands	00 : 08 : 00
3 little pewter dishes	00 : 04 : 00
2 Doz: & 4 plates	00 : 18 : 00
2 Dripping pans & 1 Iron	00 : 08 : 00
7 Spitts	00 : 10 : 00
3 Kettles & a ffish pan	00 : 16 : 00
3 Potts & Crookes & 2 pans with Bows	01 : 00 : 00
One Skillit & a posnit 2 stew pans and a Dish Cover	00 : 08 : 00 ⁶

3 Rachans and a Brandroth 2 ffirepans, 2 Cleaves and a swading Knife and other Huslements in ye Kitchin	01 : 00 : 00
10 new dishes & 2 Mazarions and 4 doz. of plates in ye Store House	03: 10 : 00
One Doz. Of silver ----	01 : 10 : 00
One Coach, 1 Chariott & one black old Coach	23 :00 :00
In ye great Garnish Chamber old wheat & Rye & new Maslin	23 : 19 : 10
In ye Barn Wheat & Rye	55 : 02 : 00
2 Oxon & 2 Stears	22 : 00 : 00
2 ffat Kine	08 : 00 : 00
7 Milk Kine	26 : 07 : 00
2 Stears	08 : 00 : 00
4 small Heifers	08 : 00 : 00
2 little Calves	02 : 00 : 00
5 young Beasts	08 : 10 : 00
1 Haystack	26 : 00 : 00
6 fat Sheep	07 : 00 : 00
2 Coach Horses	40 : 00 : 00
One Gelding & 1 maire	10 : 00 : 00
One Gray Gelding	06 : 00 : 00
5 old Geldings & 2 old Maires	30 : 00 : 00
5... swine, 1 Sow & 2 , Hoggs	06 : 10 : 00
2 old Waines, 2 old Carts ---Teams and other implements belonging to Husbandry	00 : 10 : 00
----- of wood	01 : 10 : 00
One haystack in ye Park	05 : 00 : 00
Manger in ye New Land	00 : 10 : 00
Manger sold to John Maugham	00 : 08 : 00
One calfe Crib in ye Ground	10 : 10 : 00
- Sheds of Sea Coales	05 : 00 : 00
3 Cart load of Western Coales	01 : 15 : 00
3 Loads of Hay	01 : 17 : 06
74 Pcs. of Silver Plate at 4 fls. ye---	181 : 01 : 06(?)
In bookes	15 : 00 : 00
One Watch	04 : 10 : 00
-----	<u>£1413 : 07 : 02</u>
---- deducted for ffuneral Expenses	<u>231 : 00 : 00</u>
	<u>£1182 : 07 : 00</u>

Notes

- 1 Jacobus and carolus: gold 20s pieces of James II and Charles II; pistole: European gold coin worth c. 18s.
- 2 Piggins: a small pail or tub, a milking pail with erect handle. Cheeseffat: a cheese-vat, a cooper-made vessel used for pressing curd. Huslement: implements or odds and ends.
- 3 Diper: diaper, a liner fabric with a small diamond pattern in the weave.
- 4 Pillow beer (bere): pillow case.
- 5 Mazarion: a deep plate, usually of metal.
- 6 Crook: hook hung in an open chimney to support a pot or kettle Bow: handle. Posnit: a small metal pot or vessel for boiling, having a handle and three feet. Rachean (reckon): a chain by which cooking vessels were suspended over the fire. Brandroth: an iron tripod fixed over a fire. Swading knife: a knife for removing rind, since swad is the swarth or skin on bacon and the pod or husk on beans and peas.

Source: Taylor, P 1988 "The Restoration Bouchiers of Beningbrough Grange". *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal* vol 60, 142-146

APPENDIX 3: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Film 1: 35mm black and white prints taken 11th May 2004

Film 2: 35mm colour slides taken 11th May 2004

Film 3: digital images taken 11th May 2004

Film	Frame	Subject	Scale
1	1	Gate, south side of The Avenue, looking N (NTSMR 34094)	1m
1	3	Gate, south side of road leading from Beningbrough Lodge (NTSMR 34095)	1m
1	5	Barley twist column, east of Garden House (NTSMR 34079)	1m
1	7	Carp Pond, looking S (NTSMR 30847)	1m
1	9	West end of Tench Pond, looking E (NTSMR 30848)	-
1	11	Bay at NW end of Tench Pond showing revetment wall to cattle ramp, looking E (NTSMR 30848)	1m
1	13	East end of Tench Pond, looking NW (NTSMR 30848)	-
1	15	Bank, west side of the Avenue, looking S (NTSMR 34093)	1m
1	17	Pond, north of west end of Larch Walk, looking N (NTSMR 34071)	-
1	19	Pond, north part of High Closes, looking N (NTSMR 34066)	1m
1	21	Drain cover in The Falls, looking NW (NTSMR 34065)	1m
1	23	Flood defences in The Falls, looking S (NTSMR 34067)	-
1	25	General view across possible villa site with ridge and furrow, looking NE (NTSMRs 34068 & 30843)	-
1	27	Steps at Water Tower (NTSMR 31357)	-
1	29	Cattle trough, west of Crow Trees, looking SE (NTSMR 34076)	1m
1	31	Cattle trough, west of Crow Trees, looking NE (NTSMR 34076)	1m
1	33	Section of ha-ha at Crow Trees, looking SE (NTSMR 31358)	1m
1	35	Skating rink, NNW of Hall, looking NE (NTSMR 31356)	-
1	37	Culvert cover and spout into skating rink, in SE corner (NTSMR 31365)	1m
1	39	South side of skating rink, looking E (NTSMR 31365)	-
1	41	Drain in centre of south side of skating rink (NTSMR 31365)	1m
1	43	General view towards north side of Beningbrough Hall, looking SE (NTSMR 31357)	-
1	45	Building platforms, north-west of Hall, looking N (NTSMR 34073)	-
1	47	Tree holes in former avenue, looking S (NTSMR 34075)	1m
1	49	Stock and vehicular erosion on early manor house site, looking E (NTSMR 30842)	-
1	51	Earthworks to south of early manor house site, looking NW (NTSMR34091)	-

1	53	Skating pond, south-west of the Hall, looking W (NTSMR 34087)	-
1	55	Canal in garden earthworks, south of Hall, looking NE (NTSMR 30850)	-
1	57	Central section of ha-ha, looking E (NTSMR 31358)	1m
1	59	Central section of ha-ha, looking E (NTSMR 31358)	-
1	61	General view of south front of Beningbrough Hall, looking NW (NTSMR 31351)	-
1	63	Cart shed with granary over (north end), Home Farm, looking E (NTSMR 34115)	-
1	65	Granary and covered foldyard, Home Farm, looking S (NTSMRs 34114 & 34115)	-
1	67	Stable and cart shed with covered yard to rear, Home Farm, looking SE (NTSMRs 31362 & 34116)	-
1	69	Racquets Court, Home Farm, looking NE (NTSMR 31694)	-
1	71	Farm buildings at Home farm, looking NE (NTSMRs 34114 & 34115)	-
2	1	General view of south front of Beningbrough Hall, looking NW (NTSMR 31351)	-
2	2	General view up drive to the Hall, looking S (NTSMR 31351)	-
2	3	General view towards north side of Beningbrough Hall, looking SE (NTSMR 31357)	-
2	4	Flood defences in The Falls, looking S (NTSMR 34067)	-
2	5	Granary and covered foldyard, Home Farm, looking S (NTSMRs 34114 & 34115)	-
2	6	Cart shed with granary over (north end), Home Farm, looking E (NTSMR 34115)	-
2	7	Farm buildings at Home farm, looking NE (NTSMRs 34114 & 34115)	-
2	8	Racquets Court, Home Farm, looking NE (NTSMR 31694)	-
3	1	Gate, south side of The Avenue, looking N (NTSMR 34094)	1m
3	2	Gate, south side of road leading from Beningbrough Lodge (NTSMR 34095)	1m
3	3	Beningbrough township plan 1841	-
3	4	Beningbrough township plan 1841	-
3	5	Beningbrough township plan 1841	-
3	6	Beningbrough township plan 1841 - Hall area	-
3	7	Newton township plan 1841	-
3	8	Newton township plan 1841	-
3	9	Newton township plan 1841	-
3	10	Barley twist column, east of Garden House (NTSMR 34079)	1m
3	11	Carp Pond, looking S (NTSMR 30847)	1m
3	12	West end of Tench Pond, looking E (NTSMR 30848)	-

3	13	Bay at NW end of Tench Pond showing revetment wall to cattle ramp, looking E (NTSMR 30848)	1m
3	14	East end of Tench Pond, looking NW (NTSMR 30848)	-
3	15	Bank, west side of the Avenue, looking S (NTSMR 34093)	1m
3	16	Bank in Pike Ponds Plantation, looking W (NTSMR 34119)	
3	17	Pond, north of west end of Larch Walk, looking N (NTSMR 34071)	-
3	18	Pond, north part of High Closes, looking N (NTSMR 34066)	1m
3	19	General view of township boundary, east side of the Coach Road, looking E (NTSMR 34064)	-
3	20	Drain cover in The Falls, looking NW (NTSMR 34065)	1m
3	21	Flood defences in The Falls, looking S (NTSMR 34067)	-
3	22	General view across possible villa site with ridge and furrow, looking NE (NTSMRs 34068 & 30843)	-
3	23	Steps at Water Tower (NTSMR 31357)	-
3	24	Cattle trough, west of Crow Trees, looking NE (NTSMR 34076)	1m
3	25	Cattle trough, west of Crow Trees, looking SE (NTSMR 34076)	1m
3	26	Ridge and furrow earthworks, north-west of Hall (NTSMR 34072)	
3	27	Section of ha-ha at Crow Trees, looking SE (NTSMR 31358)	1m
3	28	Skating rink, NNW of Hall, looking NE (NTSMR 31356)	-
3	29	General view towards north side of Beningbrough Hall, looking SE (NTSMR 31357)	-
3	30	North side of skating rink, looking N (NTSMR 31356)	-
3	31	Culvert cover and spout into skating rink, in SE corner (NTSMR 31365)	1m
3	32	Drain in centre of south side of skating rink (NTSMR 31365)	1m
3	33	Building platforms, north-west of Hall, looking N (NTSMR 34073)	-
3	34	General view towards north side of Beningbrough Hall, looking SE (NTSMR 31357)	-
3	35	Tree holes in former avenue, looking S (NTSMR 34075)	1m
3	36	Painting - "The Entrance Front at Beningbrough Hall" by Boyuttats & Chapman 1751	-
3	37	Painting - "The Entrance Front at Beningbrough Hall" by Boyuttats & Chapman 1751	-
3	39	Stock and vehicular erosion on early manor house site, looking E (NTSMR 30842)	-
3	40	Stock and vehicular erosion on early manor house site (NTSMR 30842)	-
3	41	Stock and vehicular erosion on early manor house site (NTSMR 30842)	-
3	42	Earthworks to south of early manor house site, looking NW (NTSMR34091)	-
3	43	General view of Ferry Ings, looking SW	-
3	44	Flood defences, south side of the park, looking W (NTSMR 34108)	-

3	45	Skating pond, south-west of the Hall, looking W (NTSMR 34087)	-
3	46	Canal in garden earthworks, south of Hall, looking NE (NTSMR 30850)	-
3	47	Central section of ha-ha, looking E (NTSMR 31358)	1m
3	48	Central section of ha-ha, looking E (NTSMR 31358)	-
3	49	General view of south front of Beningbrough Hall, looking NW (NTSMR 31351)	-
3	50	Cart shed with granary over (north end), Home Farm, looking E (NTSMR 34115)	-
3	51	Granary and covered foldyard, Home Farm, looking S (NTSMRs 34114 & 34115)	-
3	52	Stable and cart shed with covered yard to rear, Home Farm, looking SE (NTSMRs 31362 & 34116)	-
3	53	Modern shed, Home Farm, looking SE (NTSMR 34078)	-
3	54	Racquets Court, Home Farm, looking NE (NTSMR 31694)	-
3	55	Farm buildings at Home farm, looking NE (NTSMRs 34114 & 34115)	-

APPENDIX 4: LIST OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS CONSULTED

English Heritage National Monuments Record: Verticals

Date	Sortie	Frame	Library no
10/5/46	RAF/106G/UK/1491	3143-45	255
26/3/46	RAF/106G/UK/1306	4047-49	290
15/4/46	RAF/106G/UK/1417	3088 & 4042	5027
1/6/51	RAF/58/705	4131-32	1196
3/6/51	RAF/540/520	3311-14 & 4235-38	1181
30/6/51	RAF/540/572	3380-81	1221
21/12/55	RAF/540/1750	16	5048
28/8/58	RAF/543/368	172-75	1854
3/9/58	RAF/543/374	232-234	1857
3/10/62	RAF/543/1889	37-39 & 102-103	2111
12/5/65	OS/65077	32-35 & 73-76	11088
13/6/67	MAL/67057	213	4882
13/6/67	MAL/67058	15-16	4883
16/7/72	MAL/72061	132-134 & 248-250	6039
11/8/72	OS/72305	136-140	10252
28/8/82	OS/82185	3-5	9676
6/8/88	OS/88229	648-651 & 661-664	13339
3/7/90	OS/90143	30-33	13717

English Heritage National Monuments Record: Obliques

Date	Accession no	Frame	Original no	NGR index
19/12/38	MSO 31113	214-215	58F/6	SE5159/1-2
15/7/52	CAP 8093	1-11	JZ1-11	SE5057/1-11
11/8/53	CAP 8141	58-65	NA58-65	SE5057/12-19
21/7/55	CAP 8316	32-40	RJ32-40	SE5057/20-26
23/3/56	CAP 8325	45-56	RU45-56	SE5057/27-36
13/8/78	NMR 10687	43-60		SE5158/9-16*
10/8/89	NMR 4439	29		SE5157/3*
5/8/90	NMR 12018	16-19		SE5158/17-20*
5/8/90	NMR 12007	14-15		SE5158/21-22
2/9/89	CRA 16863	17-21	218/17-21	SE5158/25-29*
8/7/99	NMR 17300	31-36		SE5158/30-35
8/7/99	NMR 17287	11-20		SE5158/36-45*
8/7/99	NMR 17304	1-4		SE5158/46-49*

* Colour slide

A J Crawshaw collection

Date	Accession no	Frame
29/5/85	AJC 42	8-12
2/9/89	AJC 218	17-21
29/7/90	AJC 245	28-31
10/4/94	AJC 348	11-13

APPENDIX 5: NTSMR DATA FOR THE BENINGBROUGH ESTATE

NTSMR	Name	NGR	Survival	Stability	Vulnerability
30839	Stone axe (find), High Closes	SE515595 (A)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
30840	Bronze candlestick (find), just north of Larch Walk	SE520590 (A)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
30841	Unclassified stone artefact, from north of Larch Walk	SE520590 (A)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
30842	Medieval manor house (site of), south-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51865844 (C)	Bad	Slow deterioration	High
30843	Possible Roman villa, Bravener Bank	SE51415920 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Low
30844	Remains of demolished 19th century outbuildings, east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51655855 (C)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
30845	Walled garden and associated structures, Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51805855 (C)	Good	Stable	Low
30846	Vine House, Beningbrough Hall	SE5177058563 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
30847	Carp Pond, north of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE51885874 (C)	Bad	Stable	Low
30848	The Tench Pond, Beningbrough Hall Park	SE52065880 (C)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Medium
30849	The Pike Ponds and associated earthworks, Pike Ponds Plantation	SE52315895 (C)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Low
30850	Garden earthworks, south of Beningbrough Hall	SE51605840 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Medium
30851	Putative Stable Wing, north-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51665861 (C)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
31139	Medieval deer park, Beningbrough	SE525595 (C)	Unknown	Unknown	Medium
31351	Beningbrough Hall (LB I)	SE51625856 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31352	Walls and gate to north of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51635860 (C)	Good	Stable	Low
31353	Brew House, west side of yard to west of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51575857(C)	Good	Stable	Low
31354	Laundry House, north side of yard to west of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51585859 (C)	Good	Stable	Low
31355	Wall around Laundry and Brewhouse yard, Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51605858 (C)	Good	Stable	Low
31356	Skating rink, 150m north-north-west of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51585874 (C)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Low
31357	Pump House/Water Tower, west of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE5131558605 (E)	Moderate	Stable	Low
31358	Ha-Ha to west and south of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51625846-SE51955850- SE51555860 (L)	Good	Stable	Low
31359	Wall running west from walled garden, east of Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE51685855 (C)	Good	Stable	Low
31360	Stable Block, Beningbrough Hall (LB II)	SE518005859 (C)	Good	Stable	Low
31361	Barn, Beningbrough Home Farm (LB II)	SE5190058600 (E)	Moderate	Stable	Low
31362	Stable and cart shed, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5193058654 (E)	Moderate	Stable	Low
31363	Newton Lodge, north side of Beningbrough Park (LB II)	SE5121959600 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31684	Beningbrough Lodge, east side of Beningbrough Park	SE5241558618 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31694	Racquets Court, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5192058590 (E)	Moderate	Stable	Low
31695	Bungalow, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5193058686 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31696	Former cart shed and cake house (now Bungalow), Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5190058695 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31697	Cart shed converted to garage, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5192558705 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31698	Modern cottage and outbuilding, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5196858662 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31699	The Garden House, Beningbrough Hall	SE5185058570 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31700	The Horse Surgery, Beningbrough Hall Park	SE5212558800 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31701	Modern steel framed cow-house, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5198558620 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31702	Modern steel framed stock shed, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5198558620 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
31703	Modern steel framed shed, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5199058580 (E)	Good	Stable	Low

31704	Modern steel framed shed, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5196558580 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
34062	Ridge and furrow earthworks, north end of Beningbrough Park, east of the Coach Road	SE514595 (C)	Bad	Stable	Low
34063	Ridge and furrow earthworks, north side of Beningbrough Park, west of the Coach Road	SE51275940 (C)	Bad	Stable	Low
34064	Boundary bank (township boundary), north part of Beningbrough Park	SE51215929-SE51875947 (L)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34065	Drain / culvert, The Falls	SE51255931 (C)	Good	Slow deterioration	Low
34066	Pond, north part of High Closes	SE51805945 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34067	Flood defences, north-west corner of Beningbrough Park	SE51095951-SE51355915 (L)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Medium
34068	Ridge and furrow earthworks, Bravener Bank	SE51355932 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34069	Boundary bank, Bravener Bank area, east of the Coach Road	SE51495915-SE51535901 (L)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34070	Boundary bank, west of Larch Walk	SE51875899-SE51675901 (L)	Bad	Stable	Low
34071	Pond, north of west end of Larch Walk	SE51875907 (C)	Good	Stable	Low
34072	Ridge and furrow earthworks, north-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51455865 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34073	Probable building platforms, north-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51535877 (C); SE51535876 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34074	Headland and trackway, north west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51495891-SE51565868 (L)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34075	Avenue, north of Beningbrough Hall	SE51645865-SE51705896 (L)	Bad	Stable	Low
34076	Cattle trough, west of Crow Trees	SE5137058580 (E)	Bad	Slow deterioration	Low
34077	Ice house, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE51905866 (C)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
34078	Modern steel framed shed, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5198058635 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
34079	Architectural fragments, east of Garden House, Beningbrough Hall	SE51885857 (C)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Medium
34080	Section of estate fencing, south of American Garden, Beningbrough Hall	SE51905838-SE51965848 (L)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Medium
34081	Pond, west of Nut Flat, south of Beningbrough Hall	SE51885831 (C)	Bad	Slow deterioration	Medium
34082	Column capital, north bank of river, south-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51945812 (C)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
34083	Ridge and furrow earthworks and field boundary, east side of Ferry Ings	SE51805825 (C)	Bad	Stable	Low
34084	Drain / culvert, south-east part of Ferry Ings	SE51745812 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34085	Ridge and furrow earthworks, south-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51525848 (C)	Bad	Stable	Medium
34086	Former field boundary / boundary bank, south of Beningbrough Hall	SE51475836-SE51715831 (L)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34087	Skating pond, south-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51455836 (C)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Low
34088	Possible avenue, south-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51475839 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Medium
34089	Possible ridge and furrow earthworks, Ferry Ings	SE51405796 (C)	Bad	Stable	Low
34090	Nun Monkton Ferry (site of), Ferry Ings	SE51305790 (A)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34091	Earthworks, south of presumed Manor House, south-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51845834 (C)	Moderate	Stable	High
34092	Pond (site of), south-east of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE52165842 (C)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34093	Boundary banks and footpath, The Avenue	SE52265860-SE52215893 (L)	Moderate	Stable	Medium
34094	Gate, south end of The Avenue	SE5226658640 (E)	Good	Stable	Medium
34095	Gate, south side of road leading from Beningbrough Lodge	SE5227058630 (E)	Good	Stable	Medium
34096	Pond, south of Pike Ponds Plantation	SE52315891 (C)	Bad	Slow deterioration	Medium
34097	Avenue (site of), south of Beningbrough Hall	SE51575838 (C)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34098	Avenue (site of), south-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51785837 (C)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown

34099	Avenue (site of), west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51455860 (C)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34100	Larch Walk, north of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE52205892-SE51885889 (L)	Good	Stable	Low
34101	Road, leading from Beningbrough Lodge to Hall	SE52425862-SE51695883 (L)	Good	Stable	Low
34102	Coach Road, from Newton Lodge to Beningbrough Hall	SE51225960-SE51675884 (L)	Good	Stable	Low
34103	The Park Walk, north of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE51945872-SE51885906 (L)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34104	Track / footpath, south-east of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE52005854-SE52085818- SE52415859 (L)	Bad	Slow deterioration	Low
34105	Field boundary (site of), south-east of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE51915859-SE52315843 (L)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34106	Field boundaries (sites of), High Closes	SE519593 (C)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34107	South Bower (site of), south of the Walled Garden	SE51815847 (C)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34108	Flood defences, south-west part of Beningbrough Park	SE51405893-SE52075816 (L)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Medium
34109	Ridge and furrow earthworks, north of Beningbrough Hall	SE51525899 (C); SE51575861 (C); SE51885866 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34110	Boat House (site of), north-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51405893 (C)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
34111	Beningbrough Park (P&G II)	SE515585 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34112	Building (site of), south side of Pike Ponds Plantation	SE5228558905 (E)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34113	Cow house, Beningbrough Home Farm (LB II)	SE5190058600 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
34114	Granary / Covered foldyard, Beningbrough Home Farm (LB II)	SE5190058600 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
34115	Cart shed with granary over, Beningbrough Home Farm (LB II)	SE5190058600 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
34116	Covered foldyard, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5190058600 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
34117	Cow House, Beningbrough Home Farm	SE5190058600 (E)	Good	Stable	Low
34118	Septic tanks, south-west of Newton Lodge	SE51185950 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34119	Boundary bank, Pike Ponds Plantation	SE52235893 (C)	Good	Stable	Medium
34120	Possible chapel and rabbit warren (field name), east of Beningbrough Hall	SE522582 (C)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
34121	Field boundary (site of), east of Beningbrough Home Farm	SE51995856-SE52255858 (L)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34122	Possible ridge and furrow earthworks (site of), east of The Avenue	SE52355880 (C)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34123	Ridge and furrow earthworks (site of), Nut Flat, south-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE52205830 (C)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34124	Possible building platform, north-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51705863 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34125	Possible building platform, south-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51525849 (C)	Bad	Stable	Low
34126	Possible trackway across township boundary, north part of Beningbrough Park	SE51485942 (C)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Low
34127	Raised area of ground and earthwork, High Closes	SE51955935 (C)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Medium
34128	Avenue and track (site of), north-east of Beningbrough Hall	SE51565871-SE52395240 (L)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34129	Former course of road to Beningbrough Hall from the east (site of)	SE51805857-SE52415861 (L)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34130	Boat House (site of), west side of the Carp Pond	SE51865864 (C)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34131	Garden earthworks, between Beningbrough Hall and the ha-ha	SE51625848 (C)	Good	Stable	Low
34132	Building (site of), The Belt	SE5230558420 (E)	Destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
34133	Bank (former track), north-west of Beningbrough Hall	SE51315862-SE51575864 (L)	Moderate	Stable	Low
34134	Ridge and furrow earthworks, Pike Ponds Plantation	SE52255896 (C)	Moderate	Slow deterioration	Low
34135	Linear earthwork (possible track), south-west of Beningbrough Lodge	SE53205860 (C)	Moderate	Stable	Medium

APPENDIX 6: CHARACTERISATION OF THE RESOURCE

SURV = Survival

STAB = Stability

VULN = Vulnerability

		Archaeological sites (75 sites)		Wall furniture (3 sites)		Buildings (35 sites)		Totals (113 sites)	
		Sites	% of total	Sites	% of total	Sites	% of total	Sites	% of total
S U R V	Good	7	9%	2	67%	28	80%	37	33%
	Moderate	29	39%	1	33%	6	17%	36	32%
	Bad	13	17%	0	0%	1	3%	14	12%
	Destroyed	16	21%	0	0%	0	0%	16	14%
	Unknown	10	13%	0	0%	0	0%	10	9%
S T A B	Stable	36	48%	2	67%	32	91%	70	62%
	Slow deterioration	13	17%	1	33%	3	9%	17	15%
	Rapid deterioration	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
	Unknown	26	35%	0	0%	0	0%	26	23%
V U L N	Low	34	45%	0	0%	35	100%	69	61%
	Medium	14	19%	3	100%	0	0%	17	15%
	High	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	2	2%
	Unknown	25	33%	0	0%	0	0%	25	22%

APPENDIX 7: NATIONAL TRUST SURVEY BRIEF

Archaeology Yorkshire & the North-East Region

Invitation to Tender: Detailed Historic Landscape survey of Beningbrough Hall and Park, near Newton on Ouse, North Yorkshire.

Introduction: The National Trust is inviting tenders for conducting and detailed Historic Landscape survey at Beningbrough Hall, 8 miles north of York (NGR SE516586).

This fine early eighteenth century country house is set in parkland (total landholding bounded on two sides by the River Ouse). Sporadic archaeological work in the past 20 years or so has established that this landscape preserves important archaeological remains relating to a) a well preserved Roman villa, b) medieval agriculture, including aquiculture, c) the remains of the pre-C18 house and d) a once more extensive early eighteenth century formal garden. However, none of these aspects of the archaeological resource has yet been fully explored, let alone recorded. The envisaged survey would aim to rectify this situation, recording the archaeology and making recommendations for its successful conservation management.

Description of work to be undertaken

The survey will consist of the following components, at this stage:

- a) Field survey: A detailed “walk-over” survey of the 152 hectares (375 acres) of the park and gardens (acreage includes a small area of land outside the park boundary). This will record all anthropogenic features, producing a text description of each (linked with documentary sources - see below), together with a minimum of 1 photograph and a reference on a guide map at 1: 2500. New survey work will not include vernacular buildings which were recorded in the late 1980s, though it will encompass a brief review of each of these commenting on changes in external appearance since the time of survey. This information will all be compiled on the National Trust Sites and Monuments Record (Exegesis) software, a copy of which will be loaned to the contractor for the duration of the project. The survey will include brief descriptions of the domestic offices around the hall not covered by the Vernacular survey, but not the Hall itself, nor detailed features of the current gardens.
- b) Documentary research: The project will encompass documentary research into the history of the Hall and its landscape. This will commence with consultation with Mr. J Thallon, Head Gardener (who will provide the contractor with copies of the documentary material he has assembled in recent years) and with the present and previous Property Managers. The project will obtain good copies of all historic map material, and other documents considered particularly important. Further documentary research will be undertaken mainly in regional archives, though allowance for up to two days work at the Public Records Office should be allowed for when tendering.

Documentary research focus should be on a) all pre-C19 sources and b) later items that comment on the management of the landscape, or the building of structures. Items relating to the social history of the estate should be noted, but not extensively explored at this stage. Research should include comprehensive consultation of aerial photographic sources.

Features identifiable from documentary sources but not evident “on the ground” shall be recorded as archaeological features in the SMR in the same manner as described above.

Documentary references to identifiable features will be cross referenced to site descriptions on the SMR.

- c) **Reporting:** At the conclusion of the project the contractor will supply an interpretative volume detailing the landscape history of the landscape as far as this is illustrated by archaeological and documentary evidence. This will include a degree of discussion of the regional setting and parallels for each set of archaeological phenomena identified. A separate volume making management recommendations will also be prepared and supplied.

The contractor will allow for significant consultation with NT staff over the draft version of these volumes.

Further information about the required survey standards is contained in “Archaeology and the Historic Environment: Historic Landscape Survey Guidelines” (NT, 2000) - downloadable from the National Trust Conservation website.

Survey products

At the conclusion of the survey, the contractor will provide the products described above to the National Trust in the following fashion:

The contractor will furnish two paper copies of the interpretation and management volumes with textual components bound, and a third unbound copy. One further set of plans etc will also be provided on film. The negatives and prints from the photographic recording will be supplied in suitable archive materials, as will copies of any documentary material.

Plan information will be supplied as CAD files compatible with Autosketch, if digitally surveyed.

Two sets of digital files (WP documents, digital photos etc) will be supplied.

The National Trust will also archive original site recording materials.

For any additional information or clarification, please contact the Territory Archaeologist.

Current site conditions

Potential Contractors should note the following points.

- i) The survey area lies within entirely within The National Trust estate at Beningbrough. Any access to the site - including pre-tender site visits must first be agreed with the Property Manager at Beningbrough Hall, details below.
- ii) Much of the land is under an agricultural tenancy. This tenancy must not be entered without the prior knowledge and consent of the tenant, to be arranged through the Property Manager .

Contract Conditions

The National Trust will retain copyright over the records of this project and any resulting report. The National Trust fully recognises of the originator’s moral right to suitable accreditation in any publication of the results.

It is National Trust policy to deposit consultation copies of surveys of this nature with regional archives. All NT SMR data is to be made available through ADS.

The Contractor will take sole responsibility for all Health and Safety requirements arising from this work. They will be expected to supply a suitable Risk Assessment prior to the commencement of work, and to provide evidence of Public Liability Insurance.

Timescales

This survey must be completed by the Spring of 2004, and will - obviously - be most easily undertaken under low vegetation conditions.

The closing date for Tenders (including a detailed specification for the survey based designed to deliver the above) Monday 27th October 2003. The successful contractor will be notified by Friday 31st October, and may commence work thereafter.

Contacts

In the first instance, all contact should be via the Territory Archaeologist, viz

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Site visits may be arranged through:

Ray Barker
Property Manager, Beningbrough Hall
NT Estate Office
Beningbrough
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APPENDIX 8: EDAS PROJECT DESIGN

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE SURVEY, BENINGBROUGH HALL AND PARK, NORTH YORKSHIRE

INTRODUCTION

As part of its continuing and ongoing commitment to the identification, preservation and management of the cultural heritage of its various estates and properties, the National Trust is seeking tenders from established contractors for a historic landscape survey of Benningbrough Hall and park, in North Yorkshire.

The scope of the project has been defined by a specification produced by the Territory Archaeologist for the National Trust, and the following project design sets out the work that Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) consider is necessary to fulfil the requirements of the brief.

The aim of the project will be to provide an accurate and up-to-date identification survey of the National Trust landholding, and to produce recommendations for the future management and conservation of the identified sites. The project involves the collation of existing information, the production of an archaeological survey, and the updating of existing architectural and related records, all augmented by a detailed descriptive and photographic record and report. The brief specifically states that neither the Hall nor the features of the current gardens need to be surveyed.

The design and format of this project design follows the specific advice published by the National Trust (2000 *Archaeology and the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Survey Guidelines*) and English Heritage (1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*). It has been prepared by Ed Dennison of EDAS, after discussions with the Territory Archaeologist and a brief visit to the area involved.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The area of survey covers some 152 hectares located on the east side of the River Ouse, c.10km to the north-west of York, in North Yorkshire (NGR SE516586). The Hall lies within the approximate centre of the park, which is bounded by the river on the south and west, and by New Road on the north and east. Land use within the survey area is a combination of pasture and arable, and the field boundaries are predominantly hedged.

Although no detailed systematic archaeological survey has been carried out to date, the area is known to contain remains dating from at least the Roman to the modern period; such data that is known is contained within the National Trust Sites and Monuments Record (NTSMR). The built environment has already largely been recorded in detail by the National Trust, and the Head Gardener has already collated some documentary and historic information.

It is anticipated that all parts of the survey area would be available for inspection. EDAS would discuss and agree the timetabling of the survey with the National Trust Property staff and its tenants, to avoid disruption to any farming or other activities; appropriate notice would be given in advance of any survey work. EDAS would also liaise with the tenants and the National Trust Property staff as appropriate, probably on a week-by-week basis, throughout the survey period.

PROJECT AIMS

Within the confines of the survey methodology, the aims of the project would be:

- to gather sufficient information to establish the extent, nature, character, condition, quality and date of any surviving archaeological, architectural and historic features within the survey area;

- to establish the functional relationships between the archaeological, architectural and historic features, and to indicate how the landscape has changed and developed over time;
- to provide a basis for the preparation of detailed management strategies and conservation proposals.

SURVEY METHODOLOGIES

The survey would be carried out in accordance with a Level 3 Survey as defined by the National Trust (2000 *Archaeology and the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Survey Guidelines*). The work would comprise an archaeological identification survey and the updating of the existing architectural records, augmented by appropriate documentary and cartographic research. These various elements would be combined to produce a single survey report together with appropriate pro formas, gazetteers and new NTSMR entries. It should be noted that no detailed measured survey work, excavation, or sampling would be carried out as part of the survey.

Documentary Research

The documentary research would cover cartographic, documentary and aerial photographic sources, as well as archaeological and architectural information held by local and county organisations and libraries.

A basic cartographic survey for the survey area would be undertaken. This would include transcribing field names, boundaries and other relevant features from any tithe, enclosure and estate maps held in the North Yorkshire County Record Office (NYCRO) and/or other Yorkshire-based record offices. Any first and later edition Ordnance Survey (OS) maps, at 6" and 25" scales would also be consulted.

Other documentary sources held as part of the Bouchier and Dawnay archives held in the Yorkshire-based record offices would also be consulted, as well as the previously collated material held by the Head Gardener and other members of National Trust staff at the Hall. Other relevant material held by local libraries (eg York City Library) and the Yorkshire Archaeological Society would also be consulted. This documentary research may establish that further material is contained in other national or regional record offices elsewhere in the UK. EDAS would not investigate these sources unless specifically required to do so, and any such work would be the subject of additional fees. However, the project brief does require the provision of two day's research at the Public Record Office in London, and this item has been separately costed.

Information held as part of the National Trust SMR, English Heritage's National Archaeological Record and the North Yorkshire SMR would also be assessed and collated. This would cover all records of past archaeological activity, and would include any aerial photographs held by these organisations. Aerial photographic collections held by English Heritage in Swindon, Cambridge University and the Yorkshire Archaeological Society would also be consulted as appropriate - these are the sources listed by the National Association of Aerial Photographic Libraries (1993 *Directory of Aerial Photographic Collections in the United Kingdom*) most likely to hold relevant information for the survey area; the former depository might include some information on the Second World War use of the house and grounds by the RAF.

All relevant information identified by the documentary research would be collated and transcribed onto Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 or 1:2,500 scale map bases for use during the fieldwork and reporting elements of the project; aerial photographic information would be sketch plotted. It is likely that some of the information would be used to produce landscape regression maps, or period overlays as appropriate. Documents and sources consulted would be listed as an appendix to the main report; this would cover all material considered, irrespective of whether it contained any relevant information.

Archaeological Survey

The archaeological field survey would be undertaken by examining each modern land parcel within the survey area for any upstanding archaeological or architectural features. In essence, the work would equate to the RCHME's Level 1 for Earthwork Survey (RCHME 1999 *Recording Archaeological Field Monuments*). Each identified site of archaeological, architectural and/or historic interest would be given a unique SMR number (where not already allocated) and sub-divided into components where appropriate, in accordance with the guidance published in the National Trust's Historic Environment Survey Guidelines.

All sites or features considered to be of interest would be located on OS 1:2,500 scale map bases as dots, areas or sketch plans, with an accuracy of +/- 5m. It is envisaged that all upstanding earthwork features would be recorded by measured sketches using standard graphical conventions; dimensions will be obtained using tapes and/or pacing. Descriptive records incorporating location, dimensions, plan, form, function, possible date, and sequence of development would be made, together with details of current land use or vegetation cover, using standard pro forma field sheets. An assessment of the importance or significance of the recorded site would also be made, and details relating to condition, stability, vulnerability and damage (real or potential) would also be collected. All this information would be added to the NTSMR database (see written account below). It should be noted that no detailed measured survey, using EDM or other similar equipment, would be carried out; appropriate recommendations will be made in the survey report if sites are found to be worthy of such action.

In addition to the above, each identified archaeological site or feature would be recorded by at least one black and white 35mm photograph (additional photographs could also be taken using the National Trust's digital camera if required) for inclusion into the NTSMR. Particularly complex or significant sites would also be recording with multiple views. A number of colour transparency views (both general and site specific) would also be taken for presentation purposes.

Architectural Survey

The existing information relating to the built heritage of the survey area would be collated and assessed. Sites would be briefly re-visited and any anomalies, significant features not previously noted, or additional information on the condition and management of the sites would be added to the NTSMR database. It is not proposed to undertake any new photography at these sites, unless significant recent changes are apparent.

Any other pre-1945 buildings or structures identified as part of the archaeological survey and not otherwise previously recorded (eg. domestic offices around the Hall) would be noted and considered as new archaeological sites, and would be recorded as such using the methodology outlined above. This would include the allocation of new NTSMR numbers.

Field Boundary Survey

All field and property boundaries within the survey area would be examined and recorded as appropriate. The majority of the boundaries are hedges, and these would be included in any surveys of historic mapping and boundary alignments, but there is no necessity to record them in terms of species etc. However, individual items of interest, for example boundary furniture such as gateways, railings etc, would be recorded as archaeological sites, in accordance with the methodology stated above.

Modern gateways or other openings would not generally be recorded in detail (unless of specific interest), although their presence and distribution would be noted as part of the general historic landscape survey.

Written Accounts

The main product arising from the fieldwork would be the production of new NTSMR records, or the enhancement of existing records. This work would be done at EDAS offices, and it is expected that the Territory Archaeologist would supply a copy of the existing NTSMR database in an appropriate electronic and readable format. It should be noted that EDAS are already familiar with the Exegesis software used by the NTSMR, and no training with regard to data entry will be required.

In order to achieve compatibility with the NTSMR, all existing keywords, classifications and data-standards, including those relating to the compilation of management and monitoring records, will be used, following established NT guidelines (2000 *SMR Data Entry Guide*). EDAS has made a provisional assessment of a typical NTSMR entry, to ensure that sufficient site information is collected to allow all appropriate NTSMR fields to be completed. This also applies to the cross referencing of documentary sources and photographic material.

THE REPORTS

The project brief makes it clear that two separate reports are required, both of which would take the form of an illustrated and typed standard A4 document. It is expected that the National Trust's Territory Archaeologist will take responsibility for final decisions concerning the presentation and format of the final documents, although it is envisaged that established formats and structures will be utilised (eg. the Bransdale survey report).

One report (the "landscape history report") would assemble and summarise the available evidence for the landscape development of the survey area (as represented by the documentary material and the historical, archaeological and architectural sites and features) in an ordered form, synthesise the data, and comment on the quality and reliability of the evidence.

Specifically, this report would include:

- a contents list;
- an executive summary;
- the background to the project, and an account of the survey methodologies and procedures used;
- an account of the survey area's overall form and development and of the evidence supporting this interpretation;
- a discussion of the various archaeological sites recorded by the survey, arranged by period or type as appropriate;
- a discussion of the built heritage of the survey area;
- an assessment of the significance, importance, condition, vulnerability and stability of the identified historic landscape resource;
- conclusions and a discussion, placing the results of the survey into their regional and national settings;
- a bibliography and acknowledgements;
- copies of selected black and white photographs for illustrative purposes;
- maps showing the locations and forms of identified archaeological sites, at a scale of 1:10,000 and/or 1:2,500 as appropriate;
- reduced scale maps showing landscape regressions or period information as appropriate;
- a summary gazetteer of sites and components, cross referenced to NTSMR entries;
- NTSMR information in appropriate report formats;
- an appendix containing a copy of the National Trust specification and approved project design, together with the details of any departures from that design;
- an appendix of sources consulted.

The second report (the “management report”) would comprise a discussion of any management and conservation issues, together with appropriate recommendations for any further work relating to the management, preservation or interpretation of the identified sites, as well as recommendations for any additional archaeological survey or documentary research. The guidelines and prescriptions outlined in the National Trust’s Historic Environment Survey Guidelines would be followed.

One draft copy of each report would be made available to the National Trust for discussion in advance of the production of the final documents.

One unbound and two bound copies of each final report would be provided, together with film copies of the maps and plans. Two sets of digital files (text documents, digital photos etc) would also be supplied for use in an IBM-PC compatible computer. The maps and plans would not be supplied as CAD drawings, unless specifically requested; additional funds would be needed to cover this conversion.

A summary of the results would be prepared for the *CBA Forum* or any other appropriate publication (eg National Trust Annual Review) as agreed with the National Trust’s Territory Archaeologist. The text of any such publication would be discussed and approved by the National Trust Territory Archaeologist in advance of any submission, and it is understood that the National Trust will have full control over the use and dissemination of the survey information and reports.

The copyright of all survey and other material gathered as part of this project would pass to the National Trust (Yorkshire Office) on payment of final invoices. The responsibility of disseminating the survey information to any regional or national SMRs and organisations would rest with the National Trust.

THE ARCHIVE

The full archive, comprising paper, magnetic and plastic media, relating to the project would be ordered and indexed according to the standards set by the National Archaeological Record. The full archive would be deposited with the National Trust (Yorkshire Office) on completion of the project.

It is expected that the archive would consist of the following.

- Copies of relevant documentary material arranged in date sequence, namely bibliographic sources, cartographic sources, and pictorial sources.
- Field and ink drawings. Any detailed survey ink drawings would be produced as wet ink plots on standard “A0” size matt surface stable polyester film sheets (minimum thickness 75 microns) with appropriate grid marks, height values, compass points and information panel. Line thicknesses and point sizes would be chosen to allow for ease of duplication and reduction.
- Photographic material, namely negatives, monochrome prints and colour transparencies. Each photograph would be clearly numbered and cross referenced to a list detailing the subject, orientation, date taken, photographer’s name, film and negative numbers. All photographic film would be exposed and processed to a standard to ensure high quality definition. Processing would be to archival standards in accordance with manufacturers’ specifications.
- Written accounts and *pro forma* gazetteers.
- Structured catalogues and indices of all documentary material, field and ink drawings, and photographs.
- Project management records, including a copy of the brief and approved project design and details of any departures from that design.

RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

Staffing

The project would be undertaken by Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd, who are on North Yorkshire County Council's standing list of approved archaeological contractors. EDAS or their predecessors have considerable experience of this type of historic landscape survey, having already completed similar surveys in Upper Bilsdale (776 hectares), Raisdale (492ha), and Glaisdale and Westerdale (670ha) in the North York Moors National Park, and in Swinithwaite (600ha), Stainforth (123ha), and lower Swaledale (Hagg and Low Oxque landholdings - 140 hectares) in the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

EDAS have also recently completed a walling survey for the National Trust of their Upper Wharfedale Estate (2,640ha) and a historic landscape survey of the Bransdale Estate (780 hectares); the latter is of direct relevance to this project.

EDAS is also an archaeological organisation registered with the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The survey work would be undertaken by Ed Dennison and Shaun Richardson of EDAS.

Health and Safety, and Insurance

EDAS will comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974 while undertaking the project. A full copy of their Health and Safety Policy is available on request. A Risk Assessment will be completed prior to the commencement of any work on site.

EDAS would indemnify the National Trust and its tenants in respect of their legal liability for physical injury to persons or damage to property arising on site in connection with the survey, to the extent of EDAS's Public Liability Insurance Cover (£5,000,000).

Project timetable

If successful with their bid, EDAS would draw up a project timetable with the National Trust Territory Archaeologist at a preliminary project meeting although it is envisaged that work on the documentary research would start within three weeks of commission. Further monitoring or progress meetings would be held as appropriate.

It is envisaged that the majority of the documentary research would be undertaken in November-December and that fieldwork would be undertaken in January 2004 when vegetation growth is low. The draft project report would be available by the end of February 2004 and, subject to approval and/or alterations, the final version would be available by the end of March 2004.

E Dennison, EDAS
23 October 2003